

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 31, 2024

Kansas Gamma Chapter

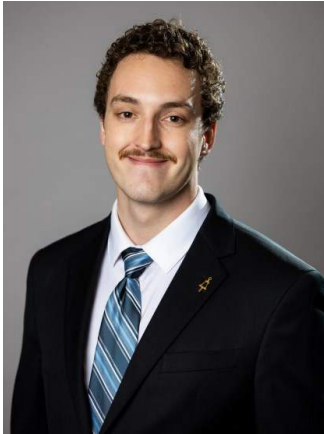
Kansas State University

Tau Beta Pi Association



Elected Officers of the Kansas Gamma Chapter

(June 2023 - May 2024)



Nick Divilbiss

President



Megan VanderLeest

Vice President



Jacob Bengel

Corresponding Secretary



Allison Wolf

Recording Secretary



Macie Sexten

Treasurer



Henry Bash

Awards Director



Dalton Rizzo

Events Director



Grace McLeod

Media Director

Elected Officers of the Kansas Gamma Chapter

(June 2023 - May 2024)



Emily Pine

Membership Director



Cory Johnson

Events Coordinator



Nathan Diehl

Historian



Riley Byrd

Officer-at-Large



Matthew Culbertson

Officer-at-Large



Ben Rogers

Officer-at-Large



Brandon Thimmesch

Officer-at-Large



Michael Velasquez

Officer-at-Large
& Interim Treasurer

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(June 2024 - May 2025)



Nick Divilbiss

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Henry Bash

Vice President



Clint McKenzie

Secretary



Michael Velasquez

Treasurer



Dalton Rizzo

Director of Events
& Programs



Austin Mills

Director of Membership
& Regalia



Jordan Rowse

Director of Public
Relations

Advisors of the Kansas Gamma Chapter

(June 2023 - May 2024)



Andy Fund

Chief Advisor



Paul Snider

Faculty Advisor



Josh Weese

Faculty Advisor



Eric Fitzsimmons

Faculty Advisor



Brad Kramer

Faculty Advisor



Katie Lilly

Alumnus Advisor

2023-24 – An Executive Summary

My name is Nick Divilbiss, and as the 85th president of the Kansas Gamma Chapter, I speak for all our officers when I say we believe that Kansas Gamma is currently the most outstanding chapter of the Tau Beta Pi Association, and it is our prayer that Kansas Gamma be duly considered for the 2024 R.C. Matthews Outstanding Chapter Award. To qualify our prayer, this cover letter discusses the contents of our annual report, as well as other member activities not included therein. It is my hope that this executive summary of our chapter's activities over the past twelve months fully conveys our profound impact on the Tau Beta Pi Association and all students at K-State.

Background – Where We Began

Over the past year, the Kansas Gamma Chapter has undergone an unprecedented transformation. Our chapter was on the brink of collapse by the end of the 2022-23 school year; all but two officers had graduated, and of those only one cared for Tau Beta Pi; our college's administration was not concerned for Tau Beta Pi, and the general student population had little-to-no knowledge of our chapter. Our membership had no passion for Tau Beta Pi; our chief advisor was not knowledgeable about Tau Beta Pi, and thus was a poor ambassador, and our other advisors could not have been less involved in the chapter. We were on our last leg.

Since then, we have solved many of the major issues facing our chapter; we have recruited involved advisors and devoted officers; we have worked to better the Association for all members; and we have developed our membership experience and chapter programming far beyond what it ever was in the past. Our chapter is a 100% student-driven force for cultural change in the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering at Kansas State University. Our programming now transcends farther than ever before; far beyond service to our members, and we have undoubtedly improved the K-State experience for all students in our college. It is our chapter's mission to continuously improve the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering and the Manhattan community.

Growth Mindset – Our 2023-24 Goals

By the summer of 2023, it was clear that we had to shoot for the moon this year to have any chance at a radical transformation, so in an officer transition meeting on May 4, 2023, we set the goals provided below.

1. Build a community of highly devoted Tau Bates
2. Establish a strong and distinctive brand
3. Create comprehensive guides for events and programs
4. Compile a complete history of the chapter
5. Attend the 2024 District Nine Conference
6. Host a 50th anniversary alumni celebration

Our first goal was to build a community of highly invested Tau Bates at K-State such that they would take pride in their membership and affiliation with Tau Beta Pi. We accomplished this goal as a result of our new points system, which is discussed in the chapter development section herein, and due to many new

events, which are discussed in the growth through events section. Through collaborative efforts with other organizations, such as Engineering Student Council and the K-State Student Union, we found true success and gained the respect and esteem of the college's administration. The impact of this accomplishment is that our membership now feels connected with the chapter and each other, and they now proudly and readily identify as Tau Bates, whereas our members in years past have tended to join and quickly forget about the Association.

Our second goal was to establish a strong and distinctive brand for Kansas Gamma both at K-State and afar; we have done so by publicizing our activities and our historical legacy in multiple ways discussed in the image section herein. Briefly, we authored a concise mission statement to direct our virtual / in-person promotional initiatives (see project 44), and in the past, we had no promotional strategy, but this year, our Media Director Grace McLeod developed a marketing plan which we have followed and have since expanded upon to fully promote our chapter within and beyond the walls of our college. In the paraphrased words of Nathan Diehl, our exiting historian: In one year and particularly one semester, Tau Beta Pi has risen from obscurity to prominence on campus, which is truly impressive.

Our third goal was to create easily followable guides for all events and programs. We did not completely fulfill this goal, but our Events Director Dalton Rizzo authored a comprehensive guide for hosting Engineering Futures sessions (see project 29) which was used by Events Coordinator Cory Johnson to host an EF session successfully and independently on April 13, 2024. We intend to complete many guides over the summer of 2024, as our officers will be heavily focused on chapter development then.

Our fourth goal was to compile a complete history of the chapter, which is mostly done. Tremendous effort has been put forth in the quest to uncover the stories of the Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Tau and the Kansas Gamma Chapter at K-State. The chapter feels it imperative to understand our past, because there is no way to grasp the path that we are currently on without knowing where we are coming from. Think of a line: What is the most basic definition of a line? It's the shortest distance between two points in space. Therefore, two points are needed to determine the trajectory of the chapter's path. Until this year, we had little concrete evidence about the chapter's past due to numerous factors. Ergo, we had no grasp on the chapter's trajectory. For all we knew, the chapter could have been doing better or worse than ever before. Now, we know exactly where we stand thanks to our members' historical research efforts (see project 1). Now, our history is clear; now, we can aptly decide where we are headed. The chapter will soon publish a website to share and preserve its history for the benefit of future generations who will never have to wonder as we did.

Our fifth goal was for all our officers to attend the 2024 District Nine Conference at Saint Louis University. We attended the conference, and it was a beneficial and productive experience, but we did not meet our goal of total attendance. Three officers and three general members RSVP'd, but all three general members backed out at the last minute. President Nick Divilbiss, Events Director Dalton Rizzo, and Membership Director Emily Pine attended the conference. Kansas Gamma almost won the engineering challenge which was to build a precision marshmallow launching device. While other teams created catapults, we made a marshmallow gun, which shot farther than any other device, but sadly lost to Missouri Beta by one point. We garnered many laughs as we nominated Kansas Alpha (who did not show again) to host the next conference for the second year in a row. However, this time, our proposal went to a vote. As usual, the most valuable takeaways from the conference were the relationships developed between chapters.

Auxiliary to our fifth goal was a goal to send multiple officers to the 2023 National Convention in Atlanta which we did. President Divilbiss and Events Director Rizzo attended the convention as voting and non-voting delegates, respectively. Many valuable ideas were shared at the convention, and particularly valuable to our chapter were the anecdotes from other chapters who successfully (a) administered points systems, and (b) hosted engineering dances. Divilbiss connected with Kathryn Saxton of California Epsilon during a NICE session, and she told of U.C. Santa Barbara's Tau Beta Prom, which inspired the idea for Kansas Gamma's remarkably successful 2024 Engineering Formal. Rizzo connected with many attendees who told of successful points systems at their home chapters. Upon their return to Kansas, Divilbiss and Rizzo published a report on the national convention to convey all major takeaways to the rest of the chapter (see project 15). We intend to bring as many officers as possible to the 2024 Convention in Rapid City, because national conventions evidently have a special transformative power on officers.

Our sixth and final goal was to commemorate our chapter's 50th anniversary with a large alumni celebration during spring 2024. This goal was challenged by our college's administration early in the summer of 2023. We had plans to reserve the K-State Alumni Center and host the event on April 13, 2024, but the college shut down the event once they learned that we were trying to get all our alumni to return to K-State for the celebration. We authored a proposal for the event which was then rejected. This lowered our officers' morale considerably, and degraded our trust in the Dean's office since the action was taken with no discussion (see project 4). We never hosted the event as originally imagined, but instead morphed our spring 2024 chapter banquet into a 50th anniversary celebration, which was very successful (see project 52). It is fortunate that the celebration did not occur at the scale originally imagined, because we would have likely faced difficulties with gathering all our alumni in Manhattan just for one banquet.

All in all, we fully accomplished most of our goals this year, and partially completed the rest. This was a huge step forward from previous years when there were no goals explicitly set. The following sections elaborate more on specific focus areas in which the chapter succeeded this year and call out specific project reports as they relate to our focus areas and the greater context of our outstanding chapter.

Growth Through Trial & Error

In the fall semester, we tried a new growth strategy. Firstly, after attending many underproductive Zoom meetings as treasurer during the 2022-23 school year, President Divilbiss decided that our officers need not meet for regular executive meetings, but that we would instead handle most official business via email and meet once a week at social events where in-person business discussions could be held on an as-needed basis. This strategy intended to free up officers' time so they would not have to sit through unfruitful meetings, but would instead only attend social events, which would have helped build community within the chapter.

Conceptually, the idea seemed logical, but it failed miserably in practice, and the attendance records from Wabash Alley Socials No. 1, 2, 4, & 5 stand as evidence of this (see projects 7, 8, 10, & 11). Note that Wabash No. 3 was cancelled due to zero attendance. The socials were not mandatory, so officers chose not to attend them, and choosing not to meet in person eliminated deliberation and discussion, further reducing the personal agency of each officer, and thereby weakening the chapter. Also, directors were not giving reports regularly, which led to confusion about who was doing what. That was much to blame for the collapse of our recruitment efforts in fall 2023. Divilbiss shifted the board to a bi-weekly in-person

meeting schedule halfway through the semester, which was the first time the board had met in-person since before the pandemic. Thus, the uphill climb began towards our current outstanding state. The transition to in-person meetings was a pivotal point in the chapter's history because officers then began to collaborate and deliberate amongst themselves on how we could make our events more appealing and more effective.

Growth Through Events

Though the Wabash Alley Socials were unsuccessful at creating community, they resulted in the reactivation of a member who became one of the most influential officers in recent history, Officer Matthew Culbertson, who played a vital role in the execution of our formal. We found great success with our first ever Beach & Bonfire Jamboree on September 16, 2023 (see project 9). The event was a major step in fulfilling the chapter's implied service objectives and building community. The Jamboree and its respective beach cleanup project also reactivated several long-time members of the chapter and four members wound up sitting around a bonfire and enjoying each other's company at Tuttle Creek State Park until 4:00 am as they camped there overnight.

As the year progressed, we began hosting Bent decorations every month in the atrium (see projects 13, 18, 24, 34, 39, 50, & 56). At first, attendance was poor; eventually, members started to attend as our decorations became more and more extravagant and extraordinary. It would be selfish if we only decorated our own Bent, so we also decided to capitalize on our intrastate rivalry with the University of Kansas by travelling to Lawrence on November 17, 2023, to decorate their Bent with K-State gear in preparation for the annual Sunflower Showdown rivalry football matchup. That event was particularly successful in drawing attention to both chapters and to Tau Beta Pi in general (see project 19).

We successfully hosted Engineering Futures sessions each semester. Luis Sotomayor travelled from Puerto Rico to host a session on September 30, 2023, and J.P. Blackford travelled from Washington D.C. to cohost a session with Professor Paul Snider, one of our recently recruited advisors, on April 13, 2024 (see projects 12 & 51). Snider will soon be certified as a Cyberambassadors EF facilitator. Engineering Futures continues to be a staple for our chapter both as a professional development opportunity and a promotional opportunity since one of our former chapter presidents, Professor Kevin Wanklyn, incentivizes his thermodynamics students to attend by offering them extra credit.

Our Adopt-A-Highway cleanups allow us to beautify the local community and indirectly improve the health of Kansas waterways thrice per year, and while we mostly see candidates attend these events to fulfill their service requirement, we have begun to see more members attend due to the new points system (see projects 14, 37, & 49). We promote our highway cleanups with social media posts and as usual, we sent our group photos to Pat at Headquarters for Tau Beta Pi's use.

Our chapter's main event has historically been our annual KS Hill cleanup and whitewashing project which we completed for the 50th time this year. However, the event is now merely our main service event, since we created larger and more well-known events this year. The cleanup took place on November 4, 2023 (see project 17), and we promoted it as much as possible via social media posts and a front-page headline report in the local Manhattan Mercury newspaper.

Two of our officers attended Missouri Delta's initiation ceremony at the University of Missouri – Kansas City on December 1, 2023, to support their chapter's growth and development (see project 21). That event helped to strengthen existing relationships with Missouri Delta officers, and it served as an opportunity to discuss the issues facing both chapters and collaborate on possible solutions together. It was also an excellent opportunity to build relationships with the Kansas City Alumni Chapter when we all went out for dinner at Bo Lings on the Plaza afterwards.

The difference between our fall 2023 and spring 2024 signature socials demonstrates the profound change in our chapter's culture over the past two semesters. For the fall social (see project 16), we used the standard format which was a cocktail-style meeting in the atrium. While researching our chapter's history in spring 2024, we interviewed long-time advisor Eddie R. Fowler, and he said that the signature socials used to take place as seated pizza-and-game-night style events. That was when we realized that holding our socials in a transient space creates the wrong atmosphere. It sends the message that we do not sit and spend time with each other, but instead meet as briefly as possible to transact signatures. So, in spring 2024, we changed the signature social to a pizza party with board games and we even streamed the K-State basketball game for everyone to watch. We held the social in the all-glass conference room in the middle of our learning commons for all to see that Tau Beta Pi is about fellowship; to see that our members spend time enjoying each other's company proudly (see project 38).

Another major transformation was with our semesterly chapter banquets. They take place just after initiation ceremonies, so in previous years, we have called them initiation banquets, but have since intentionally rebranded them as chapter banquets. The reason for this is to send a clear message that the banquets serve as fellowship opportunities for the entire chapter, not just for initiates. Since I (Divilbiss) joined Tau Beta Pi in fall 2021, only initiates and officers have attended the banquets with possibly one or two general members showing up. Beginning in fall 2023, we saw alumni and general members at the banquet, and in spring 2024, we saw alumni, deans, advisors, faculty, members, initiates, spouses, and parents at our banquet (see projects 20 & 52); we even had K-State's ex-head football coach Bill Snyder attend as the keynote speaker! For the first time in my tenure, there were more existing members than initiates at that chapter banquet. It was a beautiful sight. We used to rely solely on keynote speakers for our banquet programming, so this year we developed a State of the Chapter address to be given at each banquet, along with new member introduction slides and an expanded awards program.

Our most successful event was the 2024 Engineering Formal hosted by Kansas Gamma. The event was open to all engineering students plus their guests, free-of-charge. It took hundreds of hours to plan and execute, and I (Divilbiss) had no part in event planning. The event was solely handled by our ad hoc Formal Committee. Members of the committee were Chair Dalton Rizzo, Cochair Emily Pine, and Officers Matthew Culbertson, and Michael Velasquez. Chair Rizzo typed a comprehensive project report over the event (see project 47), so this letter will only address the basics. Firstly, it was the biggest event our chapter has hosted, during the 21st century, since over 250 people showed up. Secondly, we came in under budget. Finally, the entire event went off without a hitch, and we provided immersive decorations, a DJ, food, refreshments, professional photography, karaoke, and promotional opportunities for other student organizations in collaboration with Engineering Student Council. ESC shifted their Engineers Week celebrations to the week of our formal so we could play off each other's events to give the college a truly spectacular E-Week.

The Formal Committee met over fifteen times leading up to the dance (in addition to regular executive meetings and including virtual-meetings over winter-break), and they also hosted a Paint & Popsicle Party (see project 46) to maximally involve our membership in the preparation of the decorations, so they would feel greater ownership of the dance. The Formal Committee set a new standard for collective dedication to the chapter's success, and each member received a Tillman Award for their drive and dedication (see project 53). The success of our dance was so profound that everyone we talk to nowadays knows about Tau Beta Pi, which is a polar shift from where things stood one year ago. We expect the next iteration to have possibly double the attendance, since we were forced to host this year's on Good Friday. Many students went home for the holiday and expressed how they would have loved to attend, had it been on a different weekend.

Image

Discussion of the Formal provides a good segway into the chapter's next main area of focus which was improving Tau Beta Pi's image at K-State. We did a great number of things to improve the chapter's image this year. We created increasingly extravagant Bent decorations every month to attract attention to our monument (see projects 13, 18, 24, 34, 39, 50, & 56 and the images below).



We started Instagram and LinkedIn accounts and promoted nearly all of our activities on social media; we made business cards to drive traffic to our social media accounts, and we made collaborative posts with the college's Instagram account, one of which gained over 3,300 views and 360 likes (see project 2); we created an org-fair display and tabled at K-State university-wide org fairs for the first time ever and at Engineering Open House, also for the first time (see projects 6, 30, & 48); we had our charter certificates restored and reframed as symbols of our chapter's rejuvenation (see project 23); we began a throwback Thursday campaign to publicize our chapter's history such that we could begin to perfect our legacy brand in the college (see project 33); we held a Tau Beta Pi poster design competition, and we will present the winning designs at the 2024 Convention in Rapid City (see project 36); we painted Tau Beta Pi cornhole boards which are now on constant display next to our monument in the atrium (see project 45); we ensured that our active and outstanding members wore regalia at commencement, and we took group graduation photos for social media and to send to Pat at Headquarters (see project 59).

Our image has been improved so much that we were approached by the Multicultural Engineering Program who asked us to cohost a watch party for Commander Nicole Mann's (MD-G '99) webinar on April 29, 2024 (see project 57). MEP Director LaVerne Bitsie-Baldwin approached us because she saw our poster of Commander Mann by the Bent as part of our decorations during women's history month, and Baldwin wants to ensure that all her students know about Tau Beta Pi. Now, instead of clawing for opportunities to promote our chapter, we are given opportunities to do more for the college and to let people know about Tau Beta Pi. One opportunity that we most look forward to is the 2025 Engineering Formal, and the college's administration has already said they would be thrilled to see the event become an annual occurrence, so we expect to receive full financial support from the Dean's office once more for next year's iteration.

Another major victory we had this year was when Carl R. Ice (KS-G '79) name dropped our chapter during the college's awards banquet on April 23, 2024. Ice is a former CEO of BNSF Railway Corporation and the namesake donor of our college, and he attended our spring 2024 chapter banquet when former head coach Bill D. Snyder gave our keynote speech on April 16, 2024. Ice then returned as keynote speaker at the college's banquet the following week and unexpectedly called our chapter out, during his speech, for having Snyder as our speaker. He said: "I was at Tau Beta Pi's banquet last week when they had Bill Snyder come and speak." Ice said that in front of the leadership of every department and student organization in the college; over 150 people; it is needless to say that our party was enamored. So, as mentioned before, everyone in the college now knows about Tau Beta Pi. If the dance was not enough, then having Carl Ice name drop us for hosting Bill Snyder surely filled in any possible shortcoming.

There were a few special image-related projects this year. Firstly, our chapter wanted to celebrate Pi Day, but March 14th falls on spring break. Our chapter has emphasized the Bent-O-Rama's value time after time, and our officers came up with a creative way to remotely celebrate Pi Day unlike any other chapter has done. We called it *Kansas Gamma's Pi Day Across the USA* (see project 40). Since our members typically leave town over break, we figured it would be an excellent opportunity to generate unique social media content and force them to use the Bent-O-Rama if we offered members a Pi Day crewneck shirt in exchange for a selfie of them wearing the shirt next to a Bent over spring break. Twelve people participated and Kansas Gamma truly had representation across the USA: from California to Illinois to Texas, Tennessee, Florida, and Puerto Rico.

The other major image-related project is Kansas Gamma's Bentspedition, which is the first-ever adventure of its kind where I (President Divilbiss) have been visiting chapters around the country to (a) help complete the Bent-O-Rama map by January 2025, (b) generate uniquely engaging content for our chapter's Instagram, and (c) force our members to understand that Tau Beta Pi is a much larger organization than the outstanding chapter they take part in at K-State. Soon, a feature article will be published in *The Bent* magazine, and the article intends to inspire other Association members to set a goal and accomplish it. The article also intends to stir up interest in our magazine, which in the opinion of every member I have spoken with on the subject, has become somewhat dry and mostly devoid of humanism over the past 30 years.

We intend to capitalize on the Bentspedition's uniquely inclusive content to garner followers from other chapters around the country and expand our chapter's influence and positive impact on the Association

in the future. Note that there is no project report for the Bentspedition since it is technically more of a personal project, but the final draft of the magazine article is attached hereto for reference. Also note that of the feature articles that are available on Tau Beta Pi's website, this will be the first one ever authored by a current member of a collegiate chapter. I will visit every single chapter by spring 2025 and will hopefully publish another article on the matter next year.

Chapter Development

Much focus has been allocated to chapter development this year, as we designed and implemented a highly effective points system from scratch, and we administer it via a recently created Canvas course that has become the lifeblood of our chapter (see projects 3 & 5). We have passed five policies this year, and over the summer we will pass at least ten more while also preparing for major revisions to our bylaws to be voted on in the fall (see projects 25, 41, 42, 43, & 44).

We revamped every single aspect of our candidacy process during spring 2024, which led to the initiation of thirteen of the finest and most professional candidates this chapter has seen since at least spring 2021 (see projects 26, 32, 35, 38, & 52). It all started with a conversation between President Divilbiss and Courtney Chase, President of California Xi. Chase told about how she found success in hosting an orientation week where she held twelve orientation sessions spread out over the course of six days to maximize flexibility for candidates with busy schedules. Kansas Gamma employed her idea in the spring and redeveloped our orientation presentation, signature book template, character evaluations, and direct marketing materials.

We also changed our organizational structure in spring 2024 to reflect natural behavioral tendencies observed in our officers where some want to be involved on a macro level, whereas others want to specialize in one specific area. Now, we have a system with seven elected officers who operate on a macro level with broad responsibilities and each of three new director positions now has the authority to recruit and dismiss appointed officers for specialized positions that they may create or remove at will (see project 41). It is a flexible system designed to satisfy all desires so we can entice as many members as possible into involved roles within the chapter.

Honor & Recognition

In addition to initiating students this year, we initiated seven eminent engineers per nominations received from our members. We decided to open a nomination form on Canvas that really took off in the spring, and we would have initiated two more, but our interpretation of the Tau Beta Pi Constitution is not that of the powers at be, so we are waiting to initiate the remaining two plus another who had a time conflict.

For at least 35 years, we have granted the Underclassman of the Year Award to the most exceptional underclassman in the college who meets the ideals of Tau Beta Pi. This year, thanks to our detailed historical research, we realized that the late Dean Rathbone (IN-A '51) was probably the one who started the award since it was created during his multi-decade tenure as an advisor. Rathbone dedicated much of his life to our college and was beloved by most. It was his interest and intervention that kept our chapter successful for its first 35 years, and according to Eddie Fowler, Rathbone's determination was to blame for bringing the 1998 National Convention to K-State. To honor his contributions and to help ensure continued reverence for our annual award, we chose to rename the award in his honor. We received

multiple applications from qualified candidates, and the 2024 Donald E. Rathbone Underclassman of the Year is Karsyn McKenna Fuchs (see project 27).

Our awards program was significantly expanded this year with the addition of two new named awards. Awards Director Henry Bash noted that our new points system allows us to quantify who is the most outstanding member of the chapter. Bash came up with the idea for the Eddie R. Fowler Most Outstanding Member Award in fall 2023, and the award was first granted to Brandon Thimmesch on April 16, 2024 (see project 54). The new award will be given out each semester at our chapter banquet, so it also serves as a way of diversifying our banquet programming. We found that this award helps to stir up competition between the most involved members of the chapter, and Thimmesch and Matthew Culbertson traded places at the top for some time leading up to the banquet, but Thimmesch was quite determined to be the first-ever Fowler Award winner. The award is named after our long-time former chief advisor Eddie R. Fowler (KS-G '54), who played a vital role in the chapter's success in the 1990s and early 2000s. Fowler was notably named as the 1999 Tau Beta Pi National Outstanding Advisor.

We also created the Frank A. Tillman Special Service Award. This award is named in honor of our chapter's founding advisor Frank A. Tillman (MO-A '60). Tillman's extraordinary drive and dedication to Tau Beta Pi is the reason why we have a chapter at K-State. For 65 years, from 1909-1974, there was talk of starting a chapter at K-State, but Tillman is the one who made his mind up and decided to do whatever it would take to see that we gained a chapter. The Tillman award is not intended to be given on a regular basis, but instead to those who demonstrate his level of extraordinary drive and dedication towards fulfillment of the chapter's mission of service. The first four Tillman Awards were granted this year to all members of the ad hoc Formal Committee. Their extraordinary drive and dedication led to our most successful and prominent event since we hosted the 1998 National Convention, and those four individuals changed the culture of K-State Engineering, improved the lives of over 250 students, and helped our chapter gain over 3,600 social media interactions. The first four Tillman Award recipients are Dalton Rizzo, Matthew Culbertson, Michael Velasquez, and Emily Pine, respectively (see project 53).

Future Plans

Kansas Gamma has some major projects slated for next year. Beginning in August, we will kick off *The Visibility Project*, which is our solution to the issue of collective invisibility shared by all college-level student organizations (see project 28). The project report provides a more complete explanation of the events that motivated us to pursue this initiative, but we essentially have a unique opportunity to capitalize on our display space in the atrium by using it to promote every college-level organization on behalf of our chapter. No organizations have displays, so we are asking them to create posterboard displays which will be rotated every month in and out of a Tau Beta Pi-branded wooden frame next to our Bent. The project will benefit all student orgs and will draw targeted attention to our Bent monument and our chapter. It is a way for us to serve an official purpose that provides value to everyone in the college. We plan to set up all the displays at once for our E-Week Bent decorations.

We also intend to fabricate a new steel riser to place underneath the stone base of our Bent (see project 31). By raising Bentzy, we will symbolically lift the chapter out of the rut it languished in over the past ten years. Most importantly, we will make the Bent tall enough that it will not fit under the staircases anymore, for that is where it was shoved about ten years ago, and only this year was it shoved out from

underneath the staircase. Raising the Bent will be an easy, yet photogenic project and we plan to write a story about it which will be published wherever possible.

The biggest issue we plan to tackle over the coming months is our recruitment efficacy. Our recruitment numbers have slowly fallen off in the years since the pandemic for a few reasons, but our work to develop the chapter into something that provides value to everyone in the college and the greater community along with our efforts to modernize, expand, and perfect our promotional strategy will allow us to rectify our recruitment woes. As stated, many times herein, no one knew about our chapter one year ago, and almost everyone knows who we are now. We will spend the summer of 2024 further developing our programs and directly contacting students from last year's eligibility lists to talk with them about the merits of Tau Beta Pi and to persuade them to consider membership in our Association. Time will tell, but we are now positioned to solve all issues with recruitment over the coming semesters.

Conclusion

This year was a transformative time for the Kansas Gamma Chapter. We have fully accomplished most of our annual goals and partially completed the rest. Our research into the chapter's past informed us of our trajectory, and our growth mindset allowed us to grow the chapter by trying different leadership strategies, hosting impactful events, expanding our programming far beyond what has been done before, refining our image, serving the greater community, honoring our members and influential alumni, and serving a greater purpose which benefits all students in the K-State College of Engineering.

We have worked closely with many other chapters and Headquarters to solve issues facing our chapter and the entire Association. We have fulfilled Tau Beta Pi's objectives by recognizing members and alumni who have honored Kansas State University with distinguished scholarship, exemplary character, and attainments in engineering; we have provided leadership and professional development training for students and alumni; and we have promoted lifelong alumnus member involvement and have cultivated a community of dedicated high achievers at K-State.

It is our prayer that this executive summary in combination with the attachments hereto will provide adequate evidence to demonstrate why we feel that the Kansas Gamma Chapter is currently the most outstanding chapter of the Tau Beta Pi Association, and we hope to be duly considered during the selection process for the 2024 R.C. Matthews Most Outstanding Chapter Award due to our dedication to the mission and impact of the Tau Beta Pi Association.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicholas R. Divilbiss", written in a cursive style.

Nicholas R. Divilbiss

85th President

Kansas Gamma Chapter



Texas Gamma Bent
at Rice University.



BENTS PEDITION

A 'MONUMENTAL' ADVENTURE — BY NICHOLAS R. DIVILBISS, KANSAS GAMMA '25

INTRODUCTION

“Hello Kansas Gamma...” our Instagram followers have grown accustomed to hearing that lately. My name is Nick and I have the honor and privilege of serving as the 85th president of the Kansas Gamma Chapter at Kansas State University (K-State). Some say I’m obsessed with Bents; of that I will let you be the judge. **By March 2025, I will personally visit every collegiate chapter in the world.** With this article, I humbly bring you: *The Bentspedition*

This is an unprecedented adventure of a scale that I’ve never experienced. However ridiculous it may seem, I can tell you wholeheartedly that it has been a life-changing experience. Technically speaking, it can be achieved by anyone with a driver’s license and a passport, and my rules are quite simple: Personally visit all active collegiate chapters; no flying unless driving is impossible; and finally, hotels are off limits.

Following these three rules, I have to date visited 103 of 257 active collegiate chapters. That is every chapter in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia,

Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and Wisconsin, along with many chapters in Indiana, Ohio, Texas, and West Virginia. Geographically, much has been accomplished with more than 13,500 miles driven and 2,200 miles flown since the journey began on December 17, 2023.

I don’t wish to bore you with a complete recollection of events, so this article focuses on just a few key happenings. While reading the article, you will learn about some highlights of the Bentspedition and a few of its objectives. You will also gain insight into the KS Gamma Chapter and me. Finally, you will, in the (map) image above, get to see the routes travelled thus far.

A HUMBLE BEGINNING

Initially, I never intended this to be such a wild adventure. The idea to visit a few chapters arose when I decided to visit family in Raleigh, NC for Christmas. Kansas Gamma had been encouraging its members to explore the Bent-O- Rama website (**see sidebar**

on page 42), so it was apparent that I should stop at the chapters along the way to (a) maintain our social media presence over winter break, and (b) ensure our members’ exposure to chapters around the country. I also figured that I’d investigate the schools with no listed Bent monuments to see what I could find.

FIRST DAY

If you’re wondering when the term Bentspedition came to be, I’ll tell you. I left Manhattan (Kansas, not New York) at 6:15 a.m. on December 17 and gassed up “Tortillo the Tacoma” at the Topeka rest stop on I-70 just as the sun was peeking over the horizon. It was light enough to make the first post on our chapter’s Instagram story; I pondered what to say.

In planning, I called it the “Great Kansas Gamma Bent-O-Rama Expedition of December 2023,” which didn’t exactly roll off the tongue. Hold up... Bent-O-Rama, expedition... the Bentspedition! Aha, on the side of I-70 in the middle of nowhere in Kansas, a new word was born! Then off to the KS Alpha, MO Delta, and MO Alpha Chapters I went.

I've met many wonderful people while traveling the country and the first was **Audrey P. Horner**, Missouri Alpha Chapter president at the University of Missouri (**Figure 1**). She and I met in St. Louis at Fitz's on Delmar. (Side note: I tried their key lime soda and it's incredible.) We visited the two chapters in St. Louis together, and she's a hidden Easter egg in the video taken at Washington Univ. (the MO Gamma Chapter). One can barely see her head peeking out behind a column as the camera pans around to their Bent. Together, we also experienced the first setback. The Bent monument at Missouri Epsilon (Saint Louis Univ.) was locked away inside their building; all I could see was its reflection off an interior window. How frustrating it was to be stopped, just inches short of their Bent! Partially defeated, I moved on from St. Louis, but the defeat didn't last long.

I had my first breakthrough at Southern Illinois University (SIU) in Carbondale. The IL Epsilon Chapter's Bent was the first unlisted monument that I found (**Figure 2**), and nothing will replace the satisfaction of that discovery. Let me paint a proper picture: it was below freezing with Northerly wind gusts of up to 30 mph that night. I arrived just after 9:30 p.m., all alone but for the police officer watching me from across the street. Shaking in the icy wind, I snooped around for about 20 minutes. The SIU Applied Science Building looks like a 1980s architectural experiment, and I was most intrigued by the wacky structure. Less interesting was each passing minute in which I found no Bent. That's when I realized: maybe they don't have a Bent. Wait... Maybe they do, and I just won't find it... Uh oh. Hope was quickly diminishing and the officer was finally circling around to confront me. That's when it happened. I found it! Excitedly, I snapped some photos, noted the Bent's coordinates, and updated KS Gamma with the great news. My flash photography combined with the miserable wind chill convinced the officer that the situation wasn't worth investigating, so with my first major victory accomplished, I pressed on towards Nashville, TN.

I pushed myself a little too far that first night, and I was lucky to make it to Nashville without falling asleep at the wheel. I arrived around 1:30 a.m., after leaving SIU at 10:00 p.m. I had planned to get a motel room, but it was way too late for that. I'll just sleep in the truck, I said. No big deal, right? Well, with no planning, it's harder than you might think to find a decent spot to park and sleep. Most places you'd like to sleep at don't allow overnight parking, and vice versa. I fueled up in midtown by Centennial Park and had zero energy to drive much further. After about 30 minutes, I found a dark and quiet spot on Parthenon Avenue just West of Oman Street. I'd never spent the night alone in a vehicle. It was terrifying and incredibly uncomfortable. I'm 6'-3" and we are talking about an extended cab Tacoma with no pillows and one undersized throw blanket on an unusually cold and windy winter night.

Waking up drained from an effectively sleepless night, I was thankful to have made it through safely when the first light of day arrived the next morning. Aside from driving through the strongest crosswinds I've encountered, nothing too noteworthy happened the following day as I visited the Tennessee Beta, Eta, Zeta, Gamma, and Alabama Delta Chapters while en route to Knoxville. I don't typically drive through Huntsville and Chattanooga on the way from Nashville to Knoxville, but the scenery itself was worth the extra distance.

STUCK IN KNOXVILLE

On January 27, 1974, the KS Gamma Chapter of Tau Beta Pi was installed, and history was made when the Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Tau was merged into KS Gamma immediately thereafter, in the first of such mergers. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the historic national merger. As we neared 2024, our chapter was excited to celebrate its 50th year at K-State, but that was dampened by our lack of historical knowledge. At some point, most of our records were unfortunately discarded. Furthermore, the chapter experienced a heavy turnover of advisors throughout the early 21st century. Because of these issues, we effectively



Figure 1: The Bent monument on the University of Missouri-Columbia campus.



Figure 2: The Bent monument on the Southern Illinois University (Carbondale) campus.

BENT-O-RAMA

Imagine an interactive map with which every Tau Beta Pi and Sigma Tau monument can be explored. "It'd be really great to have a website to share Bents and post where they are." That's what Neal T. Bussett, *CA X '09*, thought at a District 16 meeting in 2018. He and Paul H. Kimpel, *DE A '70*, then created the Bent-O-Rama website: bents.tbp.org

The website provides chapters with a proper place to share their history, photos of activities, goals, and information about their Bent monument(s) and/or Sigma Tau pyramid(s), if applicable.

It also allows individuals to log their personal visits and upload a picture at each monument. Much progress towards completion has been made since the site debuted in 2019, but it won't be fully useful until all chapters have entered the details of their Bents since Tau Bates can't log visits at icons with no information.

The KS Gamma Chapter would love to see a completed Bent-O-Rama map because it will be a useful tool in showing prospective members the grand scale of the professional network provided by Tau Beta Pi.

Figure 3: (below) A selfie taken with Executive Director Curt Gomulinski outside the TBPI Headquarters in Knoxville, TN.

Figure 4: (below/right) "Tortillo the Tacoma" also known as "Hotel Tacoma" refueling in Daytona, FL.



knew nothing about our past, and it's hard to celebrate 50 years of KS Gamma without knowledge of the chapter's history.

To rectify this issue, I emailed Tricia Gomulinski, Director of Alumni Affairs, a few weeks before leaving Kansas. First, I asked whether TBPI Headquarters (HQ) kept any permanent records for the chapters. They do. Then, I asked if it was possible for a chapter officer to comb through their chapter's records. It is. Knowing this, I asked if I could visit HQ (**Figure 3**) for a couple days to see what I could learn about our chapter. Before leaving Nashville, I let Tricia know that I'd be in Knoxville by the end of the day and that I'd be living out of my truck. However, Tricia and Curt graciously offered one of their guest rooms to me. That was much appreciated and no offense to *Hotel Tacoma* (**Figure 4**), but beds win over passenger seats.

I knew right away that the stay in Knoxville would be fruitful when I arrived at the Gomulinski's residence on December 18. Curt had a bound copy of *The Bent* magazines from the 1970s and flipped it open to show an article about Kansas Gamma's installation ceremony. Sure enough, there was our first president, **John R. Schlup, Ph.D., KS G '75**, standing next to the last president of the Epsilon Chapter, **John D. Wilson, KS G '74**, at K-State in 1974. I had no idea just how much information there was to come.

Two days quickly evaporated as I paged through every Sigma Tau *Pyramid* magazine from 1915-74 and every copy of *The Bent* magazine from 1973 onward. It was information overload. To my great surprise, HQ had records of all important chapter reports and correspondence from the present day all the way back to 1909!



Immediately, our chapter's origin story was transformed. We knew that the Epsilon Chapter was founded in 1912, but had no idea that K-State had tried to start the Kansas Alpha Chapter in 1909. Wow, just a few more Carnegie units in 1909 and KS Alpha would've lived at K-State! Then, in 1928, Kansas Beta was to be founded at K-State. Accreditation was no longer an issue and there was local support for a chapter, but the matter was dropped because of the Association's certain belief that the Sigma Tau merger of 1928 would be approved. There was, then, no reason to start a new chapter, they said, since our Epsilon Chapter would certainly be converted into a TBPI chapter that year.

I found original photographs of our installation ceremony and images and programs from the 1998 National Convention ("K-State in '98") hosted by KS Gamma. Curt surprised me with a flash drive containing PDFs of every handwritten KS Gamma catalog card. Also on his drive was every Sigma Tau catalog card in existence. Mind you, we have no idea when K-State lost its Sigma Tau records, so we may have a complete Epsilon membership record set for the first time in five decades. What truly blew me away though, was what I found under a tall stack of boring 1950s Sigma Tau financial records. Alone in its existence, an original hand bound March 1941 Epsilon Chapter pledge book from John M. St. John (**Figure 10, page 45**), a former mechanical engineering student at K-State.

Speaking of the Epsilon Chapter, I also aim to locate all surviving Sigma Tau monuments. Revealed to me in Knoxville were photographs of all those historic monuments across the U.S. I've since reached out to chapters across the country in search of any clues. My favorite Sigma Tau discoveries so far are at the WY Alpha and TX Gamma Chapters, where the bases of those chapters' Bent monuments were formed in the shape of a Sigma Tau pyramid.

It's tough to get strangers to take cold emails seriously; especially when asking about a monument that was probably destroyed 50 years ago. However, I did receive a response from Professor Emeritus **Raymond G. Jacquot, Ph.D., P.E., WY A '60**.

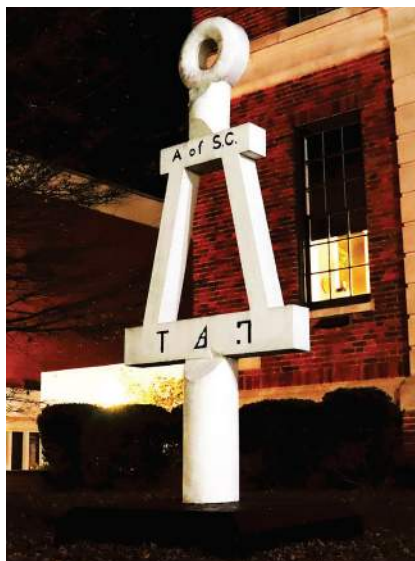


Figure 5: (left) The Bent monument on the Clemson University campus.



Figure 6: (right) The original 1903 Sigma Tau Minutes Book with paperweights and keys.

He seemed a bit skeptical of my inquiry at first. Through our exchange, I learned that he was a student member of Wyoming's Omega Chapter. I believe he would tell you that he was most surprised when I sent him a copy of his Sigma Tau catalog card from 1959. After that, we worked together and determined that Omega's pyramid was removed from its pedestal and replaced with a Bent monument in the late 1970s; that the base of their Bent was cast in the shape of a pyramid; and that affixed to it are the original 1932 plaques from the Omega pyramid. Therefore, WY Alpha has one of the newest Sigma Tau pyramids in existence.

TO CLEMSON AND BEYOND

After what seemed like a never-ending mountain of information, I finally moved on and continued the Bentspedition on December 22. The route took me directly through Gatlinburg and Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Words don't convey how beautiful that drive is. Past the mountains, I found myself at Western Carolina Univ., home to the North Carolina Eta Chapter. They don't have a Bent yet, but by then I had picked up on the pattern of AISC steel sculptures scattered around American universities. Theirs appeared to be new.

I made it to South Carolina just after nightfall and worked my way through the hills to Clemson. SC Alpha's concrete Bent monument stands about 8 ft tall and is elegantly painted white (**Figure 5**). Outside of Clemson, I stopped at a Walmart to buy a sleeping bag and some pillows. By Charlotte, I was ready to put them to use, so in a Cheddar's parking lot just off I-85, I got the best sleep I'd had in days. *Hotel Tacoma* was now officially lavish.

The days leading up to Christmas were productive, as I visited chapters in North Carolina with the second most ridiculous experience taking place at Virginia Tech (VA Beta) in Blacksburg. Due to the holiday season, every building there was locked. That didn't work very well, considering that their Bent marker was pinned inside a building. To make a long story short, I wound up spending over an hour finding a way inside and through a highly secured building just to discover, oh, this is the University President's office... Hmm... It's probably not in here. Eventually, thanks to an architectural clue in a photo from Curt, I found their Bent monument, which is actually located across the courtyard from that building. What a way to spend a morning!

ROUND TWO

The remaining chapters on the first leg went smoothly, and I got home just before New Year's, as expected. It didn't feel right though as there were still two weeks of break left, and so many listings were still incomplete. My restlessness took over and quickly I mapped out another leg and set off again on January 2. The first stop (44th chapter) was the NE Alpha Chapter at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

While at TBP HQ, I learned a great many things, including that Angie Boles makes the best sweet tea around. I also learned that NE Alpha has a large chest of old Sigma Tau stuff. Curt said he didn't have time to sort through all of it the last time he was there, but that there was probably some good stuff in it that would be worth looking at. When I tell you he was onto something, I mean it!

The NE Alpha Chapter president, **Ry P. Steffen**, NE A '24, and I spent five hours reviewing every document in that chest and what we uncovered was profound. Curt had spoken of a long-lost Sigma Tau ritual. Rumor was that it was supposed to be passed down from Bob Nagel to Jim Froula to Curt, but Froula had no recollection of the ritual's existence. Ry and I located a 1965 printing of the Sigma Tau ritual handbook, which details multiple types of rituals, not just initiations. Curt was blown away by the finding and even more, we found the original record book (**Figure 6**) containing minutes dating back to the first 1903 brainstorming meeting when the Sigma Tau founders met for the first time over a year before it was founded. The historical significance of our finds cannot be fully comprehended yet, but I look forward to learning more about Sigma Tau in the future.

Through the remaining days of the second leg, I visited both Iowa chapters, all five Wisconsin chapters, all of the remaining Illinois chapters, all but one Indiana chapter, and all Southern Ohio chapters, except for Ohio Eta (Air Force Institute of Technology). A word of advice: **READ** the Bent-O-Rama listings and make sure you phone ahead if a chapter is located on a military base. Ask me how I know. Let's just say I technically have one chapter left to visit in Dayton, Ohio.

The second leg was full of ups and downs. I fell in love with Chicago and am looking forward to returning this summer. During my stop at the Illinois Beta Chapter's Bent at Illinois Tech, I was thrilled to be back on solid ground because minutes earlier I was standing in a glass box hanging off the top floor of the Willis Tower. I'm not a huge fan of heights, so it was stressful.

(Figure 7)

One of my favorite encounters was with Jennie Klumpp, undergraduate advisor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM). I was directed to her office while inquiring about the location of WI Gamma Chapter's Bent, and she didn't really know what I was referring to until I showed her a picture of another bent monument. We then walked down to the main hallway where theirs hangs on the wall, and we had a conversation about Tau Beta Pi and the Bentspedition. Here are her thoughts on the exchange:

I have been an academic advisor in the College of Engineering & Applied Science at UWM for 24 years. So, of course, I have always had an awareness of Tau Beta Pi. However, it was not until Nick wandered into our office over winter break that I really gave the organization's Bent much consideration. In fact, when Nick said he was looking for it and wondered if I could lend an assist, I had to ask him what he meant when he said "Bent." I am embarrassed to say, I didn't know that the large bronze "thing" hanging in one of our main halls was a Bent.

I must say when Nick explained what he was doing, I was both shocked and impressed! And, as a mom, a little bit concerned. Traveling the country, living out of his truck to take pictures of the Bents spread throughout the country—that is true commitment.

As a result of meeting Nick and seeing his commitment to finding Bents on campuses across the country, as well as his commitment to Tau Beta Pi, I have a newfound appreciation for the organization and its impact on students.

Jennie has since located an informative plaque describing their Bent monument's dedication and she and other UWM employees are ensuring that it is hung near their monument, so everyone may understand what it represents.



Figure 7: "The Ledge" glass box the top of the Willis Tower in Chicago, IL.

There were a few other notable encounters on the second leg. I had the chance to talk with the chief advisor of the Ohio Xi chapter at Miami University as well as the deans of engineering at both Bradley University (IL Delta) and the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign (IL Alpha). There were some low points too. I spent the coldest night of the trip at the I-70 rest stop in Greenfield, OH. I was woken up by the cold that morning, after which I turned the truck on for warmth. That experience made me think about those who don't have that luxury. Then, later that morning, I got a flat tire on I-70 just before my exit in Richmond, Indiana. There's nothing like lying under your truck on the shoulder of the interstate as semis blow past you in both lanes.

ROUND THREE

Spring break was consumed by leg three of the Bentspedition, and I'm still amazed that I made it back to Kansas on time. I drove 5,000 miles through Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Puerto Rico, Arkansas, and Missouri. It was a wonderful surprise to wind up at Texas Xi (at UT Dallas) as they were hosting the District 10 Conference **(Figure 9, page 45)**.

Kansas Gamma doesn't make it to D10 conferences often, so I enjoyed meeting the people there very much and what an opportunity to ask all the chapters about their monuments. Walking into a situation like that is a Bent hunter's dream.

There were many highlights in the Southern states, but my favorite experience of all was visiting Puerto Rico Alpha on Pi Day. I had a contact there named Luis who has been an Engineering Futures facilitator for some



Figure 8: Nick (middle) in Puerto Rico during the PR Alpha Pi Day festivities. On the left is PR Alpha Chapter president, Yaleyry K. Garcia Rivera, and on the right vice president, Yaziel R. Rodríguez Suárez.

time. He hosted our session at Kansas Gamma last fall and we really enjoyed having him, so it was a true pleasure getting to hang out with him for the morning. Also, their chapter was giving away pizza for Pi Day, and I enjoyed showing up unannounced as a random officer from Kansas. They don't get very many visitors, which doesn't make much sense to me. Personally, I'm looking for any excuse to visit Puerto Rico again. **(Figure 8)**

CONCLUSION

The Bentspedition is the greatest adventure I have ever undertaken. It has taken me to places I never would have gone; introduced me to people I never would have known; and broadened my horizons and helped me better understand the world we live in. Whether you're interested in pursuing a Bentspedition or not, it is my hope that this story will inspire you to set a goal and accomplish it despite all obstacles.

During this summer, I will visit many other chapters in the Midwest and the Northeast. A video of every visit can be found on KS Gamma's Instagram story highlights. "BoR #1" contains videos from the first leg. "BoR #2" contains those from the second, and so forth. Our Instagram handle is [@ksutbp](#) **(QR code available on page 45)**. Follow us if you'd like to tag along on this wild ride!

Bentspedition: Author Info and Additional Images

NICHOLAS R. DIVILBISS is a senior studying architectural engineering at Kansas State University. Next year, he will continue at K-State towards a master's in the same subject. Nick enjoys kayaking, singing, and litter cleanups. Growing up in foster care, after an abusive childhood, he didn't believe he could succeed in college. Before trying, he pursued a law enforcement career as a 911 dispatcher and a volunteer fireman, only to be told that his foster care background disqualified him from LEO positions. After selling real estate for a few years, Nick committed to going to college and doing whatever was required to be successful. Through much sacrifice he's been able to maintain a 4.0 GPA while gaining his first leadership experiences through Tau Beta Pi and for that reason he's extremely grateful for TBIT's role in both his personal and professional life.

More images will be posted to the Tau Beta Pi website at:
www.tbp.org/?Bentspedition



Follow along on Nick's journey using the QR code below.

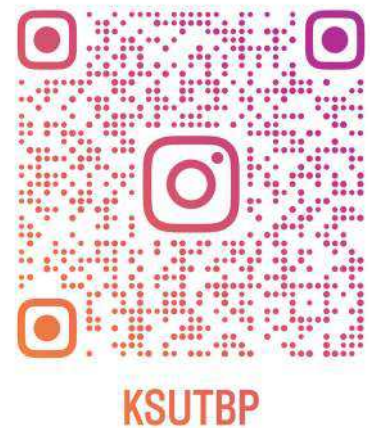
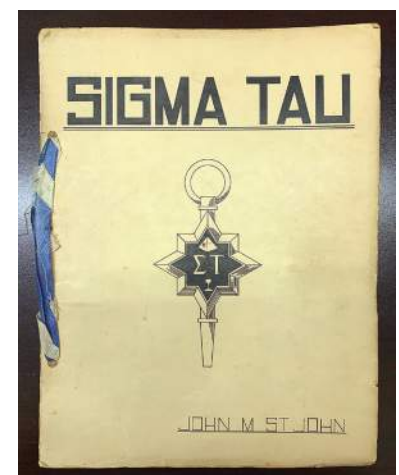


Figure 10: A Sigma Tau 1941 pledge book from the Epsilon Chapter at K-State.



(Above) Nick sitting on the Pyramid monument for the Sigma Chapter of Sigma Tau at Oklahoma State University.

(Below) Figure 9: Nick (far left) with the group of Tau Bate leaders in attendance at the District 10 Conference in Dallas, Texas.



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1 Deep Dive Into KS Gamma Chapter History

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 06/01/23 - 05/31/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Chapter Development
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☒ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Alumni	16
Officers	3
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
12.0	12.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

Firstly, the numbers of hours provided above are incorrect, and I cannot give a proper estimate, as the officers involved with this project spent countless hours researching, processing, and collecting data. By fall 2023, Kansas Gamma had no grasp on its history at K-State. Frequent and sudden turnover of advisors and students combined with losses of records and poor filing standards, since at least 1974, had left us without an understanding of our legacy. Three officers committed to amending the problem and have been using numerous resources to look into the chapter's past. We combed through K-State's archives and Headquarters' file stacks in Knoxville. We tracked retired advisors down and conducted recorded interviews. We searched through old newspapers, magazines, and newsletters. We digitized our surviving historical records and utilized the Kansas State Tau Beta Pi Alumni Network (LinkedIn group) to collect survey responses from alumni. We searched through many resources to gather as much information as possible about our chapter's history at K-State. The results of this project are profound, and the project is ongoing.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

The purpose of this project is to gain a wholistic understanding of our chapter's past so we can

properly build and promote its legacy brand with respect to its impact on K-State Engineering, the Manhattan community, and its alumni. In doing so, we will help future officers articulate precisely why our chapter is so vital to both the college and its students. In perfecting the chapter's legacy brand, we expect to dramatically increase recruitment efforts which will allow us to honor many more students for their dedication to academics at K-State.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

President Divilbiss led this project. He travelled to Knoxville, Tennessee and spent four days living with Executive Director Gomulinski while combing through the file stacks at Headquarters. He also reviewed all 'The Pyramid' magazines from 1915-74 along with 'The Bent' magazines and 'The Bulletin' newsletters from 1973-present. Divilbiss digitized all records found at HQ and uploaded them to the chapter's files. Historian Nathan Diehl took charge of interviews and digitization of existing records. Diehl interviewed five former advisors and digitized all photographs, negatives, and print records in the chapter's possession. Together, Diehl and Divilbiss jointly interviewed former chief advisor and District Nine director Eddie R. Fowler in Topeka, Kansas. Fowler provided insight as both a long-time participant in Kansas Gamma and a former student member of the Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Tau. Events Director Dalton Rizzo combed through the K-State archives and reviewed the 'Kansas State Engineer' magazines and K-State Engineering's 'Impact' magazine. Rizzo also secured every student org registration form from our chapter extending back to 1974.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

The total cost cannot be determined, but the chapter itself incurred no expenses.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

Poor recordkeeping standards; there are many alumni who have passed away; there are many alumni who we have no contact with; we went from having almost zero data to a state of information overload, so it has been a struggle to find time to process our data; we have every Sigma Tau catalog card in existence (about 45,000), but they are not filed by chapter, so we have to manually sort them before we can begin the transcription process; it's hard to find officers to dedicate lots of time to this.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

PHENOMINALLY SUCESSFUL: As mentioned, prior to this project, we had little knowledge about our chapter's past. We now know that our chapter's origin story began on December 27, 1909, when M.R. Bowerman (MI-A '09) mailed a letter to HQ asking how we could start a chapter at K-State. R.C. Matthews then corresponded with multiple people at K-State until 1914, when it was settled that the time was not then right for a Tau Beta Pi petition due to the firm establishment of our Sigma Tau chapter. HQ received correspondence again in 1928 from an individual on behalf of Dean Seaton, who wished to explore the possibility of a petition, should the 1928 merger with Sigma Tau fail. Matthews then said with certainty that he expected the Sigma Tau merger to be complete by the end of that year. No further correspondence took place until the 1960's when C.Y. Thomas, an alumnus, reached out to HQ to say that K-State surely should establish a chapter. Many letters were exchanged in the '60s, and we found that the person responsible for starting our chapter was Frank A. Tillman (MO-A '60). Tillman held an organizational meeting on September 28, 1970, to start a local society called Tau Beta Gamma, a mock Tau Beta Pi chapter with which he intended to petition for the Kansas Gamma Charter.

We have also greatly increased our insight into the Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Tau. For the first time in probably 50 years, we have a record of our chapter's members. We collected chapter letters discussing the semesterly happenings in our chapter for much of its life, and we even found group photos.

This ongoing project has allowed us to redefine our chapter's legacy, which was most useful during the revamp of our orientation presentation. We were also able to share the origin story with 67 attendees including Carl R. Ice (KS-G '79), former CEO of BNSF Railway, at our 50th anniversary celebration. Our next step is to share all of our data by publishing a new website over the summer.

3. Additional Attachments

Figure 1: 12-27-1909 letter from M.R. Bowerman to R.C. Matthews (HQ Stacks)

Recd JAN 1 - 1910

K. S. G. C., Manhattan, Kas, Dec. 27, '09

R. C. Matthews
Sec. Tau Beta Pi
Knoxville, Tenn.

Dear Sir:

I should like to see a chapter
of Tau Beta Pi established at the
school and want to know the proper
way of going about to apply for
one. I think the institution is
worthy. I am teaching mech Eng.
here.

Very truly yours
M. R. Bowerman
Alpha of Mich, '09.

Figure 2: 01-25-1928 letter from R.C. Matthews to H.L. Oakes (HQ Stacks)

January 25, 1928.

Mr. Herbert L. Oakes,
Kansas State Agricultural College,
Manhattan, Kansas.

My dear Hub:-

The Sigma Tau merger will very likely be approved next fall. Moore, Higbie, and myself, met with Davidson and Sjogren in Chicago on December 27 and had no trouble in agreeing on all points concerning the merger. The last two conventions have approved the idea, so that the merger will likely be only a question of time, in which case we will take over the Sigma Tau chapters.

I am certainly glad to hear from you. I thought you went to Oxford. Oklahoma Alpha has been like many others. When the main guy left the chapter went blooey, but with the assistance of the Dean and other faculty men we had little difficulty in straightening them out.

I wish I could see you again and if you stay out in Kansas long enough I probably shall, as the Sigma Tau chapters will be formally installed into Tau Beta Pi when the time comes. If I do not see you soon, here's luck!

With very best regards, I am as always,

RCM/b

Most fraternally yours,

Secretary-Treasurer.

Figure 3: 12-31-1965 letter from C.Y. Thomas to R.H. Nagel (1973 Tau Beta Gamma final petition)

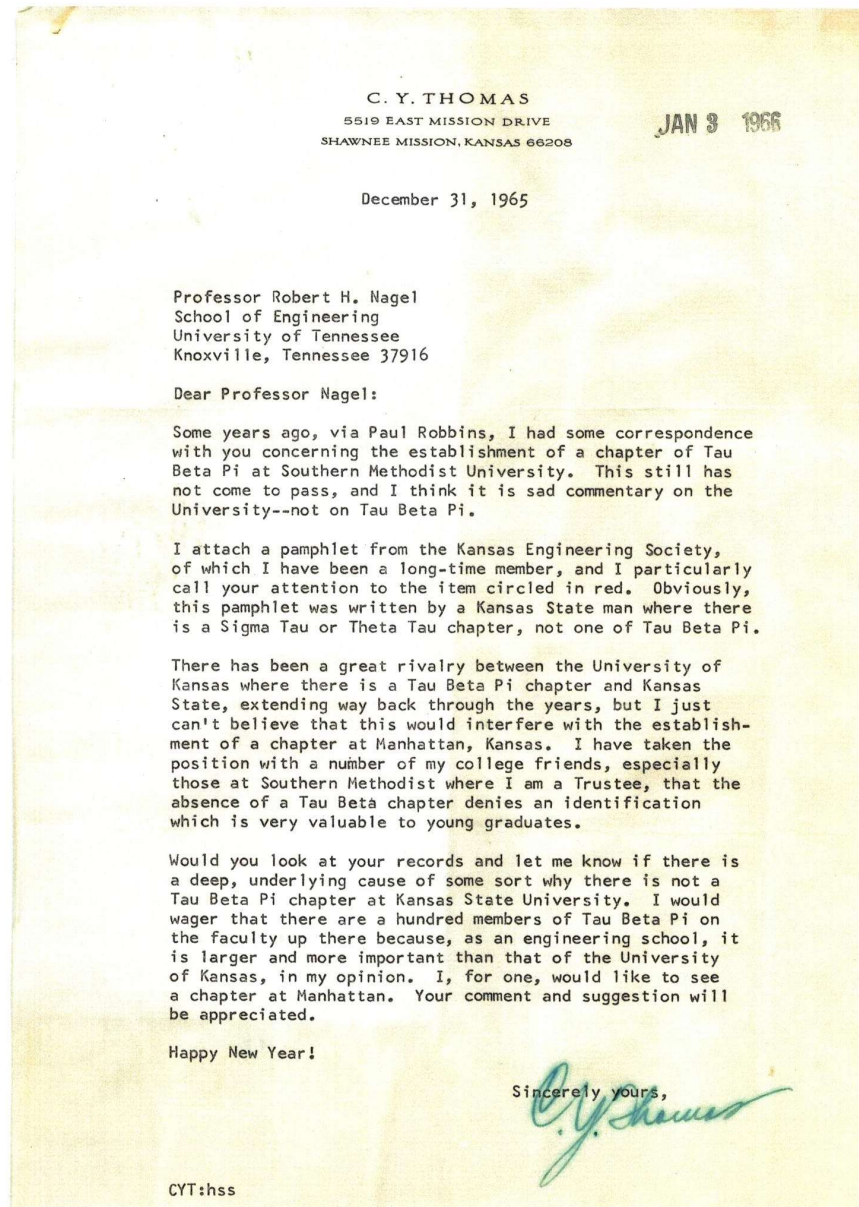


Figure 4: 10-27-1970 letter from R.H. Nagel to F.A. Tillman (HQ Stacks)

October 27, 1970

Dr. Frank A. Tillman
Department of Industrial Engineering
College of Engineering
Kansas State University
Manhattan, Kansas 66502

Dear Dr. Tillman:

Thanks very much for your phone call yesterday. I am delighted to know that you are going ahead with the organization of a local engineering society at Kansas State. I want to do everything I can to help in this project, looking toward the establishment of a Tau Beta Pi chapter institution as soon as possible.

Under separate cover I have sent you six copies of our current Constitution and Bylaws booklet, six copies of our information booklet, several of our brief brochures describing Tau Beta Pi, and a copy of the initiation ceremony of Tau Beta Pi. Please keep the initiation ritual private for the time being because our chapters have not yet had time to vote on the proposal to make our ritual public.

I shall appreciate the opportunity to check over your proposed local society Constitution and Bylaws for technical compliance with our rules and operating procedures. It might save some embarrassments if we catch little discrepancies early.

I certainly appreciate your taking the lead in getting the Tau Beta Pi idea going at Kansas State. We recognize that the existence of a Sigma Tau chapter on your campus is a deterrent, and Tau Beta Pi has no desire to hurt that organization in anyway. But Tau Beta Pi has grown much more rapidly than Sigma Tau and is far more widely known and recognized in both the collegiate and industrial world. Tau Beta Pi therefore has something worthwhile to offer to the top engineering students of Kansas State University, in our opinion.

Sincerely yours,

Robert H. Nagel

RHN/sa

2 From Zero to Hero on Social Media

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 06/01/23 - 05/31/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
10.0	10.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

One year ago, in spring 2023, Kansas Gamma had no social media presence aside from an old Twitter account which we had been locked out of since long before the pandemic. Since then, we have committed to fully publicizing our initiatives such that every student in the K-State College of Engineering will know about Tau Beta Pi. Our old Twitter (@KSU_TauBetaPi) had only 27 followers and the most recent post was made on Pi Day in 2018. The account was registered to a hidden email: c*****@l***.c**. It felt impossible, but President Divilbiss used the alumni spreadsheet received from Tricia Gomulinski and eventually found an email that matched up and was registered to Casey Stallbaumer. Divilbiss found Casey Potter (Stallbaumer) on Facebook, and it turns out that she was chapter president back in spring 2015. Luckily, she still had the email in question, so Divilbiss was able to recover the Twitter account. Media Director Grace McLeod then developed a marketing plan and created additional social media accounts across other platforms. McLeod took charge of social media marketing throughout the year, and the rest is history.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

The purpose of this project is to promote Tau Beta Pi to the fullest extent possible both at K-State and beyond. With a larger bank of followers, our account will surely boost the perception of KS-G, thus making recruitment in our college much easier as potential members view the chapter in a positive light.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

Media Director Grace McLeod headed this project, and she was the main social media manager over the 2023-2024 school year. McLeod created our Instagram, LinkedIn, and Facebook accounts. President Divilbiss created and manages the Tau Beta Pi Alumni Network group on LinkedIn.

iv. **In Conjunction With**

K-State Engineering Instagram (@kstateengg)

v. **Total Cost**

\$60.0

vi. **Cost Breakdown**

\$60.00 to have (500) business cards printed at Able Printing in downtown Manhattan.

vii. **Special Problems Encountered**

Had to recover a long-lost locked account. All of our accounts are now owned by the chapter's Google account, and all of our passwords are stored on the chapter's Microsoft Teams course, as to prevent the same issue in the future. McLeod created a Facebook account that was almost immediately shut down for unknown reasons. We will try again with Facebook next year, because that will be a useful tool in reconnecting with our alumni.

viii. **Overall Evaluation**




A PHENOMINAL SUCCESS: In just under 12 months, we've gone from having zero social media presence to having successful accounts on multiple platforms with hundreds of followers. We post content on our Instagram at least once a week, and President Divilbiss has used the Instagram to document the first-ever international Bentspedition. We have striven to generate content that appeals to members of our chapter, members of other chapters, K-State alumni, and the general public. Media Director McLeod even made social media business cards that we hand out at promotional events (and TBP conferences/conventions). The cards have QR codes linking people directly to our social media pages. This project is a quantifiable success. Please see the first figure below from our collaborative post with K-State Engineering about the 2024 Engineering Formal. The numbers of views and likes speak for themselves, considering that we started with zero presence this year. Next year we intend to secure 1,000 followers on Instagram as we become one of the most influential organizations in the K-State College of Engineering. Also on the first attachment is a comparison of ours and Kansas Alpha's follower counts. We use the school rivalry spirit as a means of exciting our members. Everyone loves good friendly competition, and we've surpassed KU's follower count in less than 12 months whereas they've had Instagram for over 73 months. Our members greatly enjoyed that information. Anyway, we intend to actively and endlessly promote our social media presence so that everyone will know about the Kansas Gamma Chapter of Tau Beta Pi.

3. **Additional Attachments**



Figure 5: Slide from spring 2024 chapter banquet presentation

Achievements


- Zero to hero on social media!
- No social media presence until June 2023

Likes and impressions

 3,318
  358


ksutbp



39 posts
 209 followers
 359 following

KSU Tau Beta Pi
 The Engineering Honor Society
 Kansas Gamma Chapter | Kansas State University

taubetapiku




80 posts
 206 followers
 211 following

University of Kansas - TBP
 Check out our website!
tbp.org/recruit/recruitHome.cfm

Tau Beta Pi—The Engineering Honor Society


Figure 6: Social media business cards (QR codes on back)




TAU BETA PI

ENGINEERING HONOR SOCIETY

KANSAS GAMMA CHAPTER

 KANSAS STATE TAU BETA PI

 KSUTBP

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Page 13 of 269

Figure 7: Post about spring banquet and 50th anniversary celebration

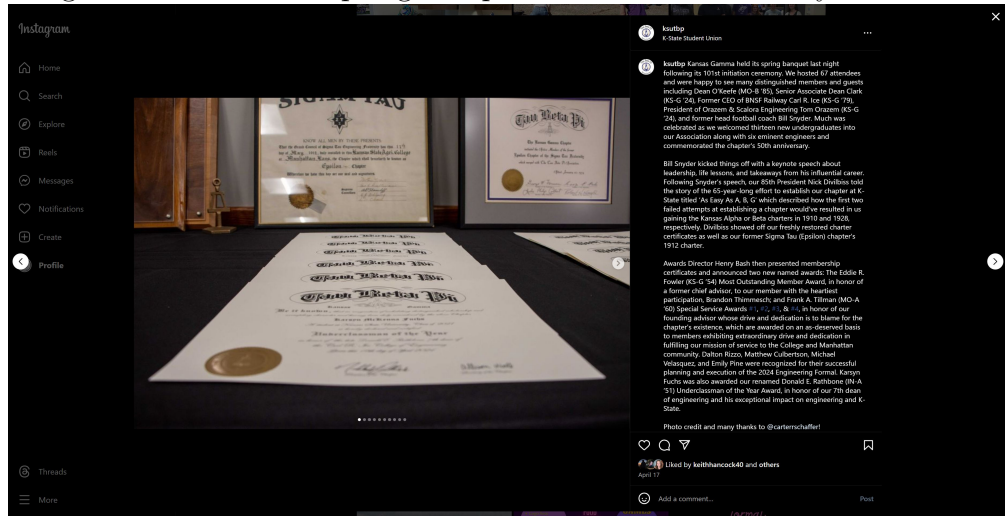


Figure 8: Post about highway cleanup

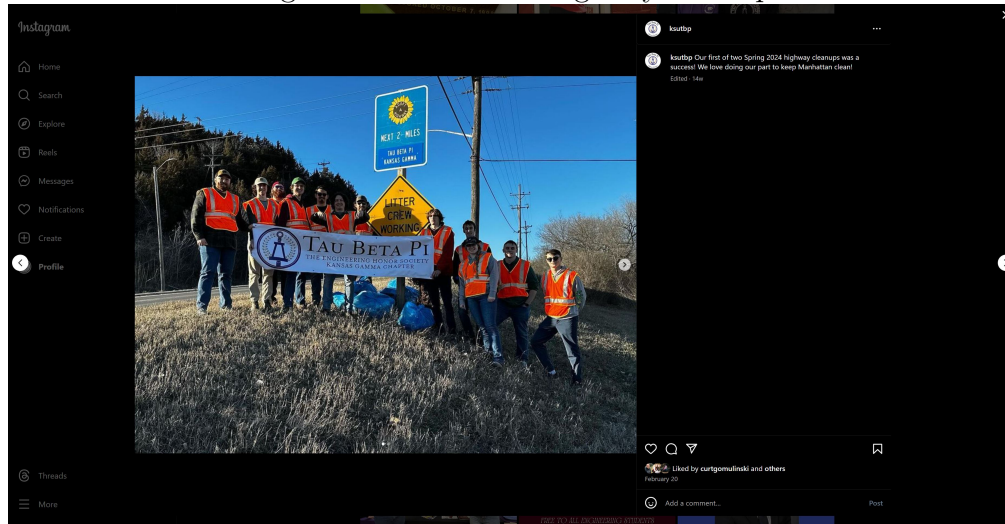


Figure 9: Post about scholarship recipients



3 Canvas Course Development

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 06/01/23 - 05/31/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Chapter Development
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	7
Members	68
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
0.1	10.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

In December 2022, Kansas Gamma created its Canvas course. Canvas is the learning management platform used by K-State University, and it's the platform with which almost all courses are administered. The idea to create a course came from a member who was involved with another student org with a course. Initially, their course was underutilized, but over the past academic year, we have developed our course into an essential tool for managing a successful and active chapter.

With our Canvas course, we send announcements and direct messages; we track graduation semesters and manage regalia distributions; we operate a highly effective points system using the grade-book feature and a custom grading scheme to auto-assign membership statuses; we publish important dates and events directly into students' to-do lists; we host officer election campaign forums using Canvas discussion boards and send out ballots using Canvas quizzes; we keep an accurate role of current members using the people function, and generate contact lists for current members; we monitor page views and course involvement; we promote the Bent-O-Rama by embedding it into our homepage, and we publish an accurate chapter roll for all

members to browse; we publish officer and advisor rolls with contact information and headshots; finally, we publish the TBP constitution, Kansas Gamma bylaws, and Kansas Gamma policies for maximal transparency.

ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

Creating and managing the most active chapter possible so that our alumni will think back fondly on Tau Beta Pi and will continue supporting the Association after graduation.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

President Divilbiss has pushed for continuous development of the Canvas course. Rizzo, Pine, Bash, McLeod and others have used the announcement and direct messaging features to convey needed information to chapter members. Our secretary enters attendance grades into Canvas. Canvas roles are granted in accordance with the chapter's Policy on Canvas Roles.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

N/A

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

It takes a significant amount of time to learn the ins and outs of the Canvas platform, but we are trying to set the course up to be as maintenance free as possible for the benefit of future officers.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

A MAJOR SUCCESS: Having an active Canvas course is imperative to building brand awareness. Every time our members check their grades on Canvas, they see their membership status (course grade), and they're reminded of Tau Beta Pi. Every time they open their dashboard to access another course, they see our course thumbnail, and they're reminded of Tau Beta Pi. Every time they check their Canvas to-do list or their Canvas calendar, they see our events and points system related assignments, and they're reminded of Tau Beta Pi. Canvas is an excellent way for us to administer a points system, send announcements, track membership, and publish data. Those are all great features, but it's truly transformative for us because it lets us establish omnipresence. We can ensure that our members are reminded about Tau Beta Pi every day, and that in itself has been transformative in our efforts to activate our membership to the fullest extent. Canvas is to Kansas Gamma as roadside golden arches are to McDonalds. Canvas = omnipresent brand reinforcement.

Many members of our chapter have commented on how different things have felt since we started heavily using Canvas for chapter communications. They now feel constantly connected to the chapter, and they no longer feel as if they are forgotten after joining.

3. Additional Attachments

Figure 10: Course thumbnail on the Canvas dashboard

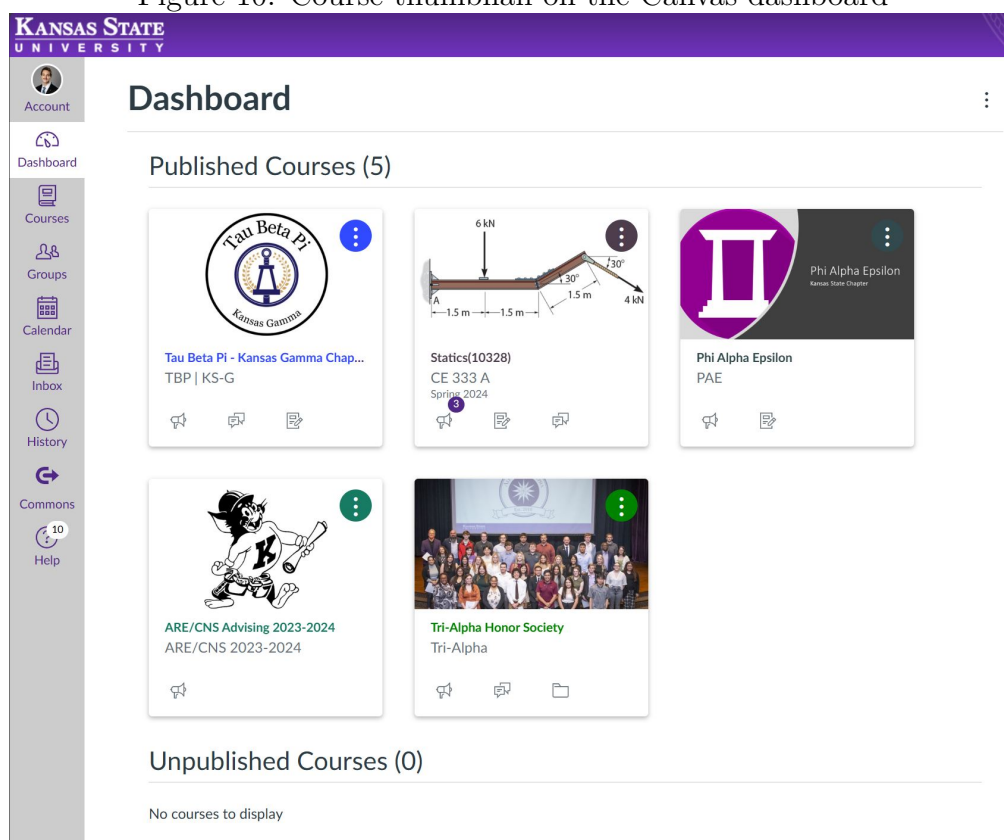


Figure 11: Announcement and Google Calendar on homepage

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Account
 Dashboard
 Courses
 Calendar
 Inbox
 History
 Help

TBP | KS-G

Immersive Reader

Home

- Announcements
- People
- Discussions
- Assignments
- Grades

Recent Announcements

Banquet pictures & group photo at graduation
Hello Tau Bates,I'm hoping that all of you are doing well durin...

↩ Reply

Posted on:

May 8, 2024, 8:00 AM

Tau Beta Pi - Kansas Gamma Chapter

Our public creed: "Integrity and Excellence in Engineering"

[Advisors](#) |
 [Bylaws](#) |
 [Chapter Roll](#) |
 [Committees](#) |
 [Constitution](#) |
 [Executive Board](#) |
 [Points System](#) |
 [Policies](#) |
 [Regalia](#) |
 [Semester Schedule](#)

Kansas Gamma Chapter

Today				Sun May 2024				Tue		Wed		Thu		Fri		Sat	
2pm April Bent Dec 1:45pm Commende												2pm Executive Bos					
5		6		7		8		9		10		11		12		13	
Finals Week												3:30pm Graduation		8:30pm Engineering			
12		13		14		15		16		17		18		19		20	
21		22		23		24		25		26		27		28		29	
30		31														Jun 1	
																Annual Report Du Chapter Survey D Convention Credi Financial Report I	

To Do

Nothing for now

Print
 Week
 Month
 Agenda

Figure 12: Examples of past announcements

Account

Dashboard

Courses

Calendar

Inbox

History

Help

TBP | KS-G > Announcements

Home

Announcements

People

Discussions

Assignments

Grades

All

Search

External Feeds

All Sections

Banquet pictures & group photo at graduation

Hello Tau Bates,I'm hoping that all of you are doing well during finals week! We're almost halfway thro...

Posted on: May 8, 2024, 8:00 AM

Reply

All Sections

Last Meeting Minutes Report

Hello Tau Bates,Here are the minutes from today's board meeting. Going forward, all meeting minutes...

Posted on: May 2, 2024, 4:16 PM

Reply

All Sections

Last Meeting of the Semester

Hello Tau Bates,Our outgoing and incoming officers will be meeting tomorrow (Thursday) afternoon at ...

Posted on: May 1, 2024, 8:14 AM

Reply

All Sections

Election Results

The ballots have been counted and the winners for each position are...President: Nick DivilbissVice-Pr...

Posted on: Apr 29, 2024, 8:30 AM

Reply

All Sections

Picnic, Elections, Regalia, Fundraising, & NASA

Hello Tau Bates! I have a list of updates and notifications for you! Here we go...Sunset Picnic @ KS-Hill...

Posted on: Apr 25, 2024, 9:00 AM

Reply

All Sections

Meet Commander Nicole Mann (MD-G '99) the First Native American Woman in Space

Firstly, don't forget to check out the Canvas election forum for our officer elections taking place this w...

Posted on: Apr 23, 2024, 3:18 PM

Reply

All Sections

Regalia + Picnic + Elections

Hello Tau Bates,We're almost to the end, and there are a few things to announce before we close up s...

Posted on: Apr 18, 2024, 8:00 AM

Reply

All Sections

Engineering Futures, Initiation Ceremony/Banquet, & Engineering-Formal.

Figure 13: Example gradebook view

Account

Dashboard

Courses

Calendar

Inbox

History

Help

TBP | KS-G > Grades > Test Student

Home

Announcements

People

Discussions

Assignments

Grades

Grades for Test Student

Print Grades

Arrange By

Due Date

Apply

Name	Due	Submitted	Status	Score
S23 - End of Semester Survey CANVAS SURVEYS - Questionnaires & RSVPs	May 5, 2023 by 11:59pm		missing	- / 0
F23 - Fundraising Activity Enthusiasm Gauge CANVAS SURVEYS - Questionnaires & RSVPs	Aug 30, 2023 by 11:59pm		missing	- / 0
F23 - Recreation Activity Enthusiasm Gauge CANVAS SURVEYS - Questionnaires & RSVPs	Aug 31, 2023 by 11:59pm		missing	- / 0
F23 - Community Service Enthusiasm Gauge CANVAS SURVEYS - Questionnaires & RSVPs	Sep 2, 2023 by 11:59pm		missing	- / 0
F23 - Wabash Alley Social #2 ATTENDANCE - Other Events	Sep 7, 2023 by 5pm		missing	- / 0
F23 - Engineering Futures Modules, Fall 2023 CANVAS SURVEYS - Questionnaires & RSVPs	Sep 9, 2023 by 11:59pm		missing	- / 0
F23 - Beach & ...				

Total: -2% (Inactive Member)

Show All Details

Assignments are weighted by group:

Group	Weight
ATTENDANCE - Initiation Ceremonies, Signature Socials, & Chapter Banquets	20%
ATTENDANCE - Engineering Futures	20%
ATTENDANCE - Community Service Events	40%
ATTENDANCE - Executive Meetings	10%
ATTENDANCE - Other Events	20%
CANVAS SURVEYS - Questionnaires & RSVPs	10%
CANVAS SURVEYS - Candidate & Officer Elections	20%
CANVAS SURVEYS - Constitution Ballot Ratifications	10%
test group	30%
Total	180%

☒ Calculate based only on graded assignments

You can view your grades based on What-If scores so that you know how grades will be affected by upcoming or resubmitted assignments. You can test scores for an assignment that already includes a score or an assignment.



- Home
- Announcements
- People
- Discussions
- Assignments
- Grades

Figure 14: Bent-O-Rama map and scholarships

Awards

The Tau Beta Pi Association provides multiple financial award opportunities at the national level. [Many](#) of our members have won scholarships, and [some](#) have won graduate fellowships. Below, you'll find information about current opportunities. If you put effort into your application, then you'll have a high probability of winning these awards. Hundreds of scholarships are given out each year.

[\\$2,000 Scholarship \(April deadline\)](#) [\\$10,000 Fellowship \(February deadline\)](#)

Additionally, our chapter presents the **Underclassman of the Year Award** each spring. Nominations are sought from all engineering faculty; nominees submit their applications to the Awards Director, who verifies their completeness and presents them to the Executive Board, who vote to determine the winner. The award is typically presented at the spring engineering leadership banquet. Please follow [this link](#) to learn about past recipients.

- Donald E. Rathbone Underclassman of the Year Award
- Eddie R. Fowler Most Outstanding Member Award
- Frank A. Tillman Special Service Award

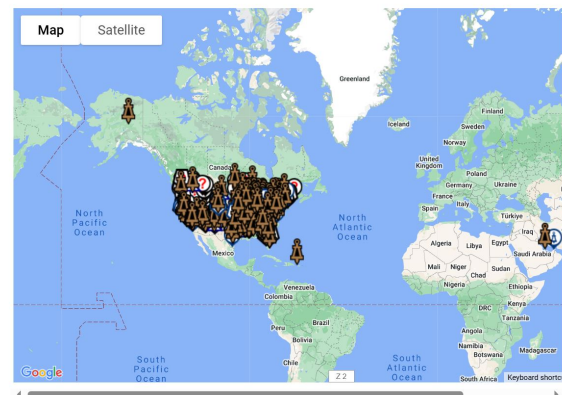
Bent-O-Rama!

Follow [this link](#) to check out an interactive map of chapter Bent monuments all around the country. It's a quick and easy way to discover how other chapters are displaying their Bents and Sigma Tau pyramids. Some interesting finds we've made so far: Oklahoma State has a neat looking whitewashed pyramid and Missouri S&T has a giant concrete Bent. Let us know if you find any other cool displays!

The Bent-O-Rama

[Register your device](#)

Zoom to: [All](#)



4 Proposal for 50th Anniversary Alumni Banquet

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 07/09/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Outreach
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Advisor	2
Officers	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
12.0	12.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

In commemoration of its 50th anniversary, our chapter intended to host a major alumni celebration on April 13, 2024. However, the college's administration shut the event down once they heard that we were planning to invite all our alumni to the event. This proposal was then written to gain their support for the celebration.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

The purpose of the event would have been to commemorate the legacy of the Kansas Gamma Chapter and the Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Tau, and to develop stronger relationships with our alumni.

iii. Organization and Administration

The proposal was authored by President Nick Divilbiss and Dalton Rizzo with input from Chief Advisor Andy Fund and Advisor Paul Snider.

iv. Total Cost

\$0.0

v. Cost Breakdown

N/A

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

The administration refused to discuss the issue with our chapter's leadership.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

The proposal was not successful in gaining the college's support for our alumni event, but it was successful in showing that our chapter will not back down on matters that are important to us. It is fortunate that the event did not happen though, as we would have likely failed to recruit hundreds of alumni to K-State just for one banquet.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 15: Page 1 of 3

Proposal to Secure the College's Acceptance to Host a Major Tau Beta Pi Alumni Event Immediately Following the 2024 Engineering Open House

The K-State Chapter of Tau Beta Pi ("Chapter") is approaching a major milestone, which will provide a unique opportunity to draw its alumni back to Manhattan. The Chapter will recognize its 50th anniversary in spring 2024 and intends to attract hundreds of alumni members to K-State for a celebratory event which will present the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering ("College") with an exciting opportunity to interact with a unique audience to which its progress, achievements, and initiatives may be showcased.

The event is currently scheduled for April 13th, 2024, at the Alumni Center, and the purpose of this proposal is to secure the College's acceptance to reschedule it for the evening of April 6th, 2024, immediately following Engineering Open House. The Chapter feels it is necessary to request the College's acceptance because it does not wish to overshadow Open House. Further, the Chapter believes that the rescheduling of its event will enhance both its event as well as the College's Open House.

The Chapter intends to enhance Open House with its proposed event by attracting an expected crowd of roughly 300-400 alumni to the University on April 6th. The Chapter feels that it would be disadvantageous to both the College and itself to host the event on another weekend, because alumni would be much more likely to return to Manhattan on one weekend for two events than on two weekends for two events. Hosting two major events on the same day will hopefully motivate potential attendees who are reluctant to make a trip for just one event. Also, hosting consecutive events would likely improve both the quantity and quality of attendance at each event, improving outreach during Open House and during the Chapter's 50th anniversary event.

The College will directly benefit from Tau Beta Pi's event by interacting with a unique audience to which it can promote its progress, achievements, and current initiatives. The Chapter gladly invites Dean Matt O'Keefe, alumnus of Missouri Beta, to address attendees and feels that Chapter alumni will be interested in what the Dean has to say on behalf of the College. The student organized event will also provide an excellent opportunity for the College to showcase the foresight, dedication, and initiative of its students.

Tau Beta Pi intends to accomplish specific goals via the proposed event. Foremost, the Chapter intends to commemorate its achievements, its members' achievements, and its positive impacts on K-State and the Greater Manhattan community over the past half-century. The assemblage of alumni provides an ample fundraising opportunity, so the Chapter intends to fundraise for the creation of a Chapter endowment fund, which is discussed in greater depth in a few paragraphs. The Chapter intends to host national officers from Knoxville, Tennessee for the installation of a Northeast Kansas Alumni Chapter. Finally, the Chapter intends to demonstrate solidarity and unity with the College. The event will help to re-establish the Chapter as a prominent student organization in the College, where Tau Beta Pi currently has little to no name recognition amongst K-State engineering students.

Re-establishment is necessary to reverse the slow decline which the chapter has experienced for decades. The Chapter was a prominent organization in the College and played a significant role in the national merger between Sigma Tau and Tau Beta Pi in the 1970's but has since declined to the point where its members receive little value, and the general student

Figure 16: Page 2 of 3

body is not aware of its presence at the College. The Chapter's decline is aptly symbolized by the chronological degradation of its Bent monument's location over the past 25 years.



One can see that through 1998 (center), when the National Convention was hosted at K-State, that the Bent was prominently displayed at the main entrance of the Engineering Complex and that it now resides behind a bench under a staircase. Tau Beta Pi initiates are told that the Bent is a symbol of strength. Ergo, the current condition of the Bent represents the Chapter's present lack of strength. The Chapter, if successful in its re-establishment effort, must act to ensure a strong future without decline reminiscent of the past quarter-century.

The Chapter intends to establish an endowment fund through the Foundation to ensure its continual strength, but most importantly, understands that it is strictly prohibited from raising funds for the refurbishment and/or replacement of KS Hill and understands that the College and Foundation must approve of an endowment fund before it may be marketed to potential alumni donors. The purpose of the fund would be to ensure Chapter strength by providing permanent income for future officers. If future officers do not have to worry about raising operational funds or being excessively frugal, then their efforts can be better focused on the Chapter's members and its role within the College and the community. Income from the fund could be used for chapter development, scholarships, and to generally provide more value to members in ways like hosting better quality events more frequently or providing graduation regalia as a reward for active membership.

The Chapter intends to raise between \$50,000 and \$100,000 for the endowment fund which would provide \$2,000 to \$4,000 in permanent annual income, respectively. Other chapters have established funds considerably larger than what is discussed herein, but Kansas Gamma recognizes that seeking an endowment larger than \$100,000 would provide more income than it could reasonably require, and would likely overstep other College-level initiatives, hence why an upper fundraising limit is appropriate. To ensure successful fundraising, it is necessary to provide alumni members with highly valuable experiences at the 50th anniversary event.

To provide attendees with valuable experiences, Tau Beta Pi is planning high quality programming for the event. Current ideas are provided below:

- Opening address by Dean O'Keefe and/or other College representative(s)
- Keynote presentation on leadership by Bill Snyder
 - Coach Snyder has agreed to present at the event
 - Alternative: Will be searching for backup keynote speakers
- Installation of new NE Kansas Alumni Chapter
- Presentation on the 50-year history of the KS Gamma Chapter at K-State
- Presentation on the future of the Chapter, and the proposed endowment fund

Figure 17: Page 3 of 3

- Recognition of alumni and an interactive presentation on alumni memories
- Catered banquet dinner
- Ambient jazz music to be played by the Thundering Cats Jazz Band
 - Have not reached out to them yet
 - Alternative: Jazz combo, chamber orchestra, wind ensemble that includes Tau Beta Pi members

The Chapter recognizes the magnitude of its proposed event and has considered its feasibility. Significant effort will be required to contact thousands of alumni members and to secure hundreds of RSVPs, but with the supervised division of labor between an executive board of eleven motivated officers and many passionate general members, the Chapter will successfully communicate with its alumni. The Chapter has recently created new social media accounts on Instagram, LinkedIn, and Facebook which will be heavily utilized for the event. Should the Chapter fail to secure enough RSVPs to fill the presently reserved space, it is possible to downsize the reservation for no additional cost up to 90 days before the event.

Finances have been another major consideration. Currently, the Chapter has approximately \$9,000 in its accounts, and expects that the event will cost between \$10,000 and \$12,000 depending on catering expenses. Many catering estimates have been acquired over the past few weeks, which have ranged from \$8,000 to \$11,000, and the Alumni Center will charge roughly \$1,000 for its facilities. The Chapter intends to apply for DSO funding from the College and SGA during the fall semester to make up for its shortfall. Multiple Chapter members have experience in commercial kitchens, catering, and hosting events, and Tau Beta Pi has five faculty advisors who will provide valuable guidance when needed, so it is anticipated that the Chapter will be successful in the planning and execution of the event.

A successful 50th anniversary event held after Open House would serve the College by attracting hundreds of alumni members to Manhattan, broadening the impact of Open House, and providing the College with a unique audience to which its progress, achievements, and initiatives may be showcased alongside the foresight, drive, and dedication of its students. It would allow Tau Beta Pi to fundraise for its continual strength and service to the College and community. Consideration has been given to the magnitude of the proposed event, and the Chapter believes it is feasible. It is proposed that the Chapter's 50th anniversary event be rescheduled for the evening of April 6th, 2024, and the Chapter extends its invitation to Dean O'Keefe to address attendees at the event.

Tau Beta Pi has tentatively reserved space in the Alumni Center for both dates and will cancel one of the reservations upon the College's response. The Alumni Center is requesting a prompt response, for they wish to free up one of the weekends for booking as soon as possible, but the Chapter understands that an in-depth assessment of its proposal's effects on the College will likely be conducted before a response is given. Therefore, the Chapter is requesting a response to this proposal by the end of July. The Chapter appreciates the College's consideration and looks forward to its response for rescheduling the 50th anniversary event to April 6th, 2024.

Respectfully,

Nick Divilbiss

President | TBP KS G

5 Development & Implementation of KS Gamma Points System

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 08/17/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Chapter Development
 - ☒ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☒ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	11
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
5.0	5.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

By the end of the 2022-2023 school year, it was clear that our chapter had to make drastic changes to increase participation. Things had declined to the point where general members wouldn't even show up to our historically significant KS Hill events, almost no one knew about Tau Beta Pi at K-State, and our members readily talked about how they felt that membership in Tau Beta Pi was meaningless. Incoming President Divilbiss and Events Director Rizzo spent the summer of 2023 brainstorming about how to increase pride and participation in the chapter. They discussed which activities were most important to the chapter and decided during a meeting on August 17, 2023, that we should provide incentivization via a points system. The initial idea was to set a threshold of 20 pts. required per semester for active membership with one free missed semester. Service events, fundraisers, recreation events, and surveys would be worth 10, 5, 2, and 1 pts. each, respectively. The board met for the first time one week later on August 24, and the development of a points system was assigned to Rec. Secretary Wolf and Vice President VanderLeest since they were both sorority members who were familiar with points system administration. The officers did not meet again until October 5, and progress on the points system was minimal until then. Events Director Rizzo was not satisfied with the

stagnation, so he drafted a points system proposal (attached) and presented it to the board at our meeting on November 16th. Rizzo's proposal was generally well received, but the board felt the reward system was too complex. On November 30, we voted to go ahead with a modified version of Rizzo's where there would be three tiers of membership: outstanding, active, and inactive. Rewards would be limited to regalia eligibility and voting rights. Though some concerns were raised, we chose to administer the system via our Canvas course. A beta version was tested, and the full system went live on January 16.

ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

The main purpose of this project is to incentivize participation in chapter events and projects such that our membership will become more invested in the chapter and the Association. The project also intends to preserve the symbolic value of Tau Beta Pi regalia so those who wear it shall feel pride knowing that they are marked in a fitting manner. Finally, the system intends to track the chapter's active membership for constitutionally required voting purposes where we must know who is active, such as ballot and bylaw ratifications.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

Brainstorming for the project is discussed in the general description section. The points system is administered via our Canvas course. Assignments are made for each event where attendance is tracked, and the Secretary inputs attendance grades manually. Auto-graded Canvas surveys grant points to members who complete surveys. All elected officers currently have the authority to add Canvas assignments and/or administer the system per the Policy on Canvas Roles.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

N/A

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

It was difficult to convince officers that forcing value into our membership would attract higher quality and possibly more members. It was challenging to determine how exactly a points system could be structured using the Canvas grade-book. Once the system was in place, there were limited concerns. A few members thought that they were being penalized, but we explained that points are only granted and never removed

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

MAJOR SUCCESS: The points system has successfully fulfilled all three of its objectives and has led to a revitalization of our chapter. Before Fall 2023, almost no general members showed up to any events including signature socials. After the system was implemented during winter break, we've had members at officer meetings, service events, social events, our initiation ceremony, our chapter banquet, bent decorations and so forth. There were concerns that regalia wouldn't motivate people to participate, but those concerns were unfounded, and the opposite has proven to be true. The beauty of our system is that we don't actually require our members to do anything. We simply incentivize them to participate. They get to choose which membership status they wish to achieve, and how they wish to acquire the needed percentage points based on the weighted categories laid out in our chapter policies. Therefore, they have full ownership of their membership plan, and they aren't forced to attend events they don't wish to attend, but instead are rewarded for attending the ones they do. The system is designed to work for everyone. Those who wish to join and never participate may do so, and those who wish to maximize their involvement may do so as well. The inherent flexibility of our system makes it

easy enough for everyone. We've seen some surprising successes due to this project, like how the Eddie R. Fowler Most Outstanding Member of Spring 2024, Brandon Thimmesch, strove to score over 100% to ensure that he would win said award before graduating. We've also had multiple members reach out to make sure they will be eligible for regalia in the future, and we've directed them to the chapter policies which outline the system's structure. We found that providing our members with objectives to strive for is an effective way of motivating them to participate in the chapter's events and operations. It is an exciting time to be in this chapter, and the points system is here to stay.

3. Additional Attachments

Figure 18: Rizzo's original proposal

Point/Membership System:

THE SYSTEM	Requirements	Benefit
<u>Loyal/Devout/ Fervent/True-TauBate</u>	Attend: - Engineering Futures - Initiation <u>Ceremony</u> - +1 Social Event	Choice of swagger from online store (Sweatshirt, Ballcap, Beanie, Long-Sleeve or T- Shirt, Paperweight). All are \$16 to \$25 Stole (Officers) (\$25) Social Media Feature (LinkedIn, Instagram, Twitter, Canvas, etc.) Free Engr Formal Entry Graduation Tassel (\$8)
<u>Fully Active Member</u>	2+ Surveys Attend: (One Each) - Community Service - Social Event - Fundraising Event	Graduation Cord Paid For (\$16) Allowed (or Free Pass) to District Nine Conference in Spring. Allowed to run for <u>titled</u> office. (Executive Board Position) Free Knick Knack (Button, 3D-Printed Bent, Small Metal Bent, Sticker, etc.) Free Banquet Meal
<u>Partially Active Member</u>	Vote on Semesterly Candidates. Vote on National Constitution or Bylaw Amendments. Vote during officer elections. Attend KS-Hill Maintenance	Access to Regalia Can run as <u>untitled</u> officer. (Committee Member or Officer)
<u>Inactive Member</u>	Initiated	None

Note & Commentary:

- By using Canvas membership could be perpetually tracked by officers and viewed by all members through the usage of the "grades" portion. This prevents officers from continually checking the records when members request their status. A dedicated officer could also input "grades" based off attendance sheets and survey scores.
- All "free" items are dependent on demand. Ex: If we have to use free food to lure members to the initiation ceremony and banquet, then is it practical to charge members.
- If Active-Members attend fundraising events, then most expenses could be paid for.
- The frequency of events and surveys will have to increase to accommodate requirements.
- This proposal is open to suggestion, discussion, and revision.

6 Fall 2023 University Activities Fair

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 08/24/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Outreach
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☐ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
3.0	2.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

Kansas Gamma tabled at the Kansas State University Activities Carnival for the first time ever in August 2023. The carnival is an opportunity for students to explore organizations from every college all at once. The main audience is current students; typically, underclassmen who are still looking for more ways to get involved. Kansas Gamma's display consisted of our new branded tablecloth and a few extra certificates and Bent pins.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

The purpose of our display was to raise general awareness of Tau Beta Pi at K-State.

iii. Organization and Administration

President Divilbiss purchased the branded tablecloth over the summer, and Media Director McLeod helped to find a few items for the display.

iv. In Conjunction With

K-State Union Programming Council

v. Total Cost

\$100.0

vi. **Cost Breakdown**

The tablecloth cost about \$100 and has been used at almost every event since it was purchased, but this was the first time it was used. Both Divilbiss and McLeod manned the display for the entirety of the 2-hour event.

vii. **Special Problems Encountered**

We had essentially no display, so not very many people were interested in stopping to learn about Tau Beta Pi. Also, we had not yet crafted our mission statement, so we did not know how to effectively promote ourselves in the greater context of the K-State community. Also, the event took place just two days into the school year, so there was essentially no time to prepare a display from nothing.

viii. **Overall Evaluation**

This event was a success in the sense that it changed the narrative that selective honor societies can't table at K-State org fairs. It was successful because it got us out of our shells and forced us to think about the display that we'd wished we had during those 2-hours. The event happens each semester, and we were determined to make a nice display for the spring fair so that we wouldn't look like fools again with nothing to show for a display.

7 Wabash Alley Social 1

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 08/29/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☐ Custom
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	3
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
2.0	2.0

2. Project Evaluation

- i. **General Description**
The chapter met at the University Union's bowling alley and bowled a few games together.
- ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**
To increase/strengthen sense of community within the Chapter.
- iii. **Organization and Administration**
It went without major issue. Slow turnout at first. Not as many people as we would've liked, but it is the first social of both the year and type. Happy-Hour wasn't in effect, so shoe rentals were not free.
- iv. **Total Cost**
\$31.65
- v. **Cost Breakdown**
One officer needed to supervise the event.
10 games * \$2/game = \$20
3 Shoe Pairs * \$3/Shoe Pair = \$9
0.09138 * \$29 = \$2.65 tax

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

Attendant didn't want to create a bill as an invoice since chapter didn't create a reservation, thus officer had to pay and be reimbursed later.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

Better publicity may have brought more members. Moving forward the chapter must create reservations so that its account can be invoiced.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 19: Rizzo, Divilbiss, & VanderLeest



8 Wabash Alley Social 2

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 09/07/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☐ Custom
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	2
Members	1
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
1.0	1.5

2. Project Evaluation

- i. **General Description**

Tau Beta Pi sponsored a social activity in the bowling alley at the Student Union; this time the activity was bowling, and members played while socializing. There was already an organization offering games, so one of the Chapter's members, David Ochner, took advantage of that and met people outside of the Chapter, letting them know about Tau Beta Pi.
- ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

This event helped strengthen the community of members within the Chapter.
- iii. **Organization and Administration**

Canvas was used to make announcements.
Not many attendees
Happy Hour was recognized by employees, thus we got free shoes to use.
- iv. **Total Cost**

\$5.46
- v. **Cost Breakdown**

$2\text{games} * \$2.50/\text{game} + \$0.46 \text{ (taxes)} = \$5.46$

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

None.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

The lack of attendees may be due to the busy nature of the semester at the beginning for members, it could also be the unwillingness to spend time with unknown people, which ironically is what the event aims to solve.

9 Beach & Bonfire Jamboree

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 09/16/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☐ Custom
 - ☒ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	5
Members	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
4.0	7.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

The chapter was given the chance to help clean up the local state park's beach in return for waved camping fees. Chapter members congregated for this opportunity to serve our community and socialize. The event helped the chapter improve its image and was in-line with the chapter's service-oriented mission.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

We served our local community by cleaning up the beach at Tuttle Creek State Park. Members also strengthened internal relationships.

iii. Organization and Administration

Events Director Rizzo was in contact with park rangers and organized the event & equipment with them. After tools were acquired, members cleared and raked the beach for a few hours then moved over to the campsite for relaxation. Rizzo went to the store beforehand to gather supplies for smore's at the campfire. President Divilbiss used his truck to pick up a load of firewood from his old boss outside of town who he cuts wood for frequently.

iv. In Conjunction With

Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks

v. **Total Cost**

\$39.99

vi. **Cost Breakdown**

\$39.99 : food, water, & supplies.

Officers on site to help people organized.

vii. **Special Problems Encountered**

The park-workers were in the dark on what the event & corresponding deals were. This was due to a lack of communication between rangers, their boss, and the rest of the park employees. We should hound them for clarification if event is repeated. The torrential downpour ended the clean up project early and completely soaked a few of the members tents.

viii. **Overall Evaluation**

The cleanup was easy enough, but we were stopped by an approaching storm. The disorganization of the park employees delayed the start of cleanup. Next time it may be better to negotiate with the "park manager" directly. Not sure why the event wasn't appealing to members, as usual, attendance could've been better. Once the storm started, some of the members went to the Jamaican-themed restaurant just down the road from the clean up site and had dinner together. Then, four members met at the campsite to dry out their tents, start a campfire, and enjoy the night. Those four members can be seen in the attached photo. They stayed up talking around the fire until 4:00 am. One funny thing about this event was when we hung a clothesline to dry out the soaked blankets after the storm. It was a good idea, but the humidity was so high that by the time we went to bed the temperature had fallen below the dew point and our blankets were actually more saturated than before we hung them up to dry.... The event was quite successful in helping us create TBP memories we'll never forget and it allowed us to reactivate one long-time member who stayed highly active throughout the rest of the year. This event directly contributed to the chapter's goal of building a community of highly involved Tau Bates at K-State.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 20: Historian by the fire



Figure 21: Camping Crew



Figure 22: The Cleanup Crew



Figure 23: Maximizing blanket condensation



10 Wabash Alley Social 4

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 09/21/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☐ Custom
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	2
Members	1
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
0.5	1.5

2. Project Evaluation

- i. **General Description**
A social event held in the Student Union bowling alley.
- ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**
Facilitate growth of relationships between members.
- iii. **Organization and Administration**
Events Director Dalton Rizzo organized the event and Not many attended except for one faithful member, Matthew Culbertson. We played pool and chatted about school.
- iv. **Total Cost**
\$0.0
- v. **Cost Breakdown**
Officers payed by the hour to play pool, so the Chapter incurred no expense. More than one required officer showed up.
- vi. **Special Problems Encountered**
The lack of attendance typical to Wabash Alley Socials persisted.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

The officers' relationship with Culbertson was substantially improved. After this event, he began regularly attending social events and service events. He then attended the initiation ceremony and chapter banquet and wound up running for an officer position at the end of the semester due as a direct consequence of this event. As an officer, he joined the Dance Committee and had a major role in the success of the spring Engineering Formal.

11 Wabash Alley Social 5

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 09/26/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☐ Custom
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
1.0	1.0

2. Project Evaluation

- i. **General Description**
Chapter members congregated at the K-State Student Union's entertainment center for fun and fellowship.
- ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**
Helps strengthen relationships between members of the chapter.
- iii. **Organization and Administration**
Only two officers attended.
- iv. **Total Cost**
\$0.0
- v. **Cost Breakdown**
Two attendees payed for themselves.
- vi. **Special Problems Encountered**
Not many members expressed interest in attending this event. The officers hypothesize that this could be due to member's lack of free time combined with the event's lack of a greater purpose beyond an opportunity for socialization.
- vii. **Overall Evaluation**
The scheduled time at which these socials happen may need to change. Members may not be interested in the entertainment that is available.

12 Engineering Futures

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 09/30/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Outreach
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☒ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☐ Chapter/Social
 - ☒ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Students	37
Officers	3
Members	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
5.0	5.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

A Tau Beta Pi nationally sponsored program that brings facilitators from other parts of the country to lead an interactive professional development seminar and workshop that is open to all students at Kansas State University. Our chapter hosts this event on a semester basis.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

The purpose was to give students a chance for professional development and soft-skill building. This was also a chance for members to build relationships with non-members as well as build chapter presence.

iii. Organization and Administration

Events Director maintained contact with facilitator, who was Mr. Luis Torrens Sotomayor of Puerto Rico University. Events Director Dalton Rizzo ordered catering, arranged for the room, created forms and flyers for promotion and registration. President Nick Divilbiss talked with the professor that teaches introductory thermodynamics (ME 513), Dr. Kevin Wanklyn. He is an alumnus and one of the former presidents of KS-Gamma, during a time which we were an active and renowned organization at K-State, so he feels personally connected to our chapter. Thus,

Wanklyn often supports this event by offering his thermodynamics students extra credit in the course for attending. The activities and presentation were guided by Luis. Events Director Rizzo led everyone in a group photo.

iv. **In Conjunction With**

K-State College of Engineering

v. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

vi. **Cost Breakdown**

The chapter already had bottled water in stock for the attendees. The College of Engineering covered the food expenses, providing all attendees with boxed lunches from McAlister's Deli. There were no material costs for a practical exercise. An officer drove the facilitator into and out of town from the regional airport.

vii. **Special Problems Encountered**

Some push-back from the college financial office due to extra food, which was ordered for but not claimed by those who registered but didn't attend. We were supported by our chief advisor, as he reiterated that we can't control who attends, and we have to order food based on the RSVP list. Luis went through his material rather quickly and had to improvise towards the end, but we don't think the attendees noticed.

viii. **Overall Evaluation**

The activities that Luis guided us through were entertaining and a nice break from the presentation. It helped all attendees get to know each other and interact. The presentations were thought provoking and engaging. There was time allocated for group discussion in the presentations, which then led to those groups sharing what they discussed with the whole audience. After the session, most attendees stayed to enjoy their lunch together. This gave Tau Beta Pi members a chance to interact with the general students in an enjoyable way, thus improving our perception within the college of engineering.

3. Additional Attachments

Figure 24: Sotomayor while presenting



Figure 25: Whole group of attendees



Figure 26: List of thermodynamics students

Wanklyn's Extra Credit	
Amman Borjas	Quincy Vogel
Braden Bramhall	Sarah Hinnen
AJ St. Laurent	Lizbeth V. Diaz
Aden Ricker	Isabel Alvarez
Riley Bliff	Will Linenberger
Alex Hoppas	Wyndom Giefer
Christian (Hos)	Brook Gideon
COLTON BRAKE	Trenton Streeter
Ric, Emanuel	Jack Scherer
Jett Ford	Emma Vogel
Dane Saathoff	Ethan Ko
Aubrey Poulk	Jackson Ross
Keith Hancock	Kirkland Lambert
Zach Shupard	Sam Hart
Aidan Kenyer	Eleanor Breynoeen
Logan McKinley	Luke Lovell
Miller Starbuck	Wendy Sheppard
Rita Woster	Jacob Steele
Mason Ouellette	
Sarah Baden	

Figure 27: Interactive group exercise



13 October Bent Decoration

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 10/01/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	3
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
0.5	0.5

2. Project Evaluation

- i. **General Description**

Every month of the semester, on the first reasonable Sunday, the chapter meets to decorate our bent monument according to the themes and holidays of the month. The last time our Bent was decorated was in October 2021, so we consider this project to be the first in a new series of regular decoration projects.
- ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

This activity encourages general engineering students and visitors to notice The Bent, then they are potentially motivated to investigate its origins. Students who already know of The Bent may talk about the decor with other students, thus spreading word about the chapter and creating recognition for Kansas Gamma and Tau Beta Pi, which may bolster recruitment. The event also facilitates socializing between Tau Beta Pi members and nurtures the community within our ranks.
- iii. **Organization and Administration**

The chapter posted about the event on our Canvas course to make members aware of the event. The chapter already had craft materials and Halloween decorations within our inventory, so a trip to the store wasn't necessary.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

Kansas Gamma already had decor and material within our inventory. The three officers that attended were sufficient for completing the decorations in a timely manner.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

None. Attendance from general members was desired, but since this was the first Bent decoration event we didn't expect much turnout.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

We posted the result onto our Instagram story and into the "Bent Decoration" story highlight. The Bent lends itself to decor with its structure and opening in the middle. This first event inaugurated the idea of a decorated Bent and led members to be a part of future decorating sessions, committing their own ideas to the monument once they saw the Bent decorated.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 28: Eerie Bentzy 1



Figure 29: Eerie Bentzy 2



14 Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 10/08/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☒ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	5
Members	2
Electees	3

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
2.0	3.5

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) has a program called Adopt-A-Highway where organizations, usually boy scout troops, charity organizations, or Greek Houses, can adopt a 2-mile section of roadway. In exchange for keeping the sides of the roadway clear of trash and debris, KDOT pays a stipend of \$190 for each of three annual clean-ups required of the adopting organization. We simply gather loose trash into bags and collect them, along with larger debris, into piles for KDOT to pick up afterwards.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

This event serves many purposes. We serve the community by keeping our portion of highway clean and raise funds with the State's stipend. It also helps build relationships between members as they accomplish an uncomfortable task then share a meal afterwards and chat about the experience and other topics. For the those working towards membership as a candidate, this is a required event that shows them an integral part of being in Tau Beta Pi and how KS-Gamma fulfills the society's mission.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

This event fulfills the service project requirement for candidates who wish to join Tau Beta Pi. The event was posted on our Canvas course to keep general members aware of the time and date. Our Events Director Dalton Rizzo drove to the KDOT office in Wamego, Kansas to retrieve trash bags and reflective vests, then had to return the equipment a few days later. In a lecture hall, a safety meeting was held for all members prior to departing to the site. We used annotated maps, and a KDOT video and brochure to brief the attendees. The members were as efficient as possible, but there was a lot of trash to collect. Groups that finished their sections early moved to other sections to help groups who had not finished yet. We all gathered afterwards to eat pizza that was ordered beforehand, then picked up by President Nick Divilbiss.

iv. **In Conjunction With**

Kansas Department of Transportation

v. **Total Cost**

\$32.0

vi. **Cost Breakdown**

4 pizzas * \$8/pizza = \$32. A decent number of officers were present, which helped divide the labor between groups so that multiple sections of highway easement were cleaned simultaneously. Group leads were required to take pictures as they progressed, keep count of the number of bags they tied off, and take note of the location of any roadkill and chemical dumps.

vii. **Special Problems Encountered**

The project would've been much more effective if more members were involved. Our Membership Director Emily Pine did not attend, which was not preferred considering this event fulfills a candidacy requirement. Lack of time and available hands left a small portion of the highway uncleaned. Present officers talked of making this service project a requirement to maintain an active status as a member of Kansas Gamma Chapter.

viii. **Overall Evaluation**

The event was generally successful, as the majority of roadside trash on our stretch of US-24 Highway was collected, and the group was not overly exhausted. Among the trash found along the road was a hubcap (picture attached), rusted metal, bricks, metal grating, scrap wood, and a car alternator. KDOT accepted our stipend request and was pleased with the results. Candidates got their chance to fulfill their service requirement. The number of attendees who stayed afterwards was slim this time around, for many had course work to tend to. During the cleanup, officers built a stronger relationship with the two general members who attended and improved relationships amongst themselves.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 30: Riley found a hubcap!



Figure 31: Chapter Members in front of AAH Sign



15 2023 National Convention Report

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 10/15/23 - 10/26/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Chapter Development
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
5.0	5.0

2. Project Evaluation

- i. **General Description**

President Nick Divilbiss and Events Director Dalton Rizzo had a meeting at Divilbiss's house immediately following their return from the 2023 National Convention and they authored the attached report for distribution to the other chapter officers for maximal transparency. The report discusses all important takeaways from convention.
- ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

The purpose of this report was to maximize the efficacy of the convention such that all chapter officers would have exposure to important information from the convention.
- iii. **Organization and Administration**

Divilbiss and Rizzo wrote the report.
- iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0
- v. **Cost Breakdown**

N/A
- vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

Divilbiss and Rizzo were jetlagged and tired; they had class the next day, but still stayed up until 3:00 am writing this report.

vii. Overall Evaluation

SUCCESS: This report helped convince the officer board to host the 2024 Engineering Formal and to establish the new points system. Our points system was partially modeled based on the contents of this report: Our system has three tiers; the bottom tier shall not wear regalia; the middle tier may purchase it; the top tier receives free cords.

3. Additional Attachments

Figure 32: Page 1 of 4



Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society – Kansas Gamma Chapter
Fall 2023, Week 10, Executive Meeting
7:00 pm, October 26th, 2023
DUF 1108, (Leadership Room)

REPORT ON NATIONAL CONVENTION

I. DISTRICT 9 (KS, MO, NE, OK, AR)

- District 9 Directors:
 - i. Brent Barcus & Matt Romero in Kansas City.
 - ii. They plan to begin attending our initiations and some service events.
 - iii. We're also welcome to attend alumni chapter events in Kansas City
- Nearby Chapters:
 - i. KS Alpha at University of Kansas, KS Beta at Wichita State, MO Delta at University of Missouri-Kansas City, NE Alpha at University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
 - ii. All nearby chapters have expressed interest in joint events.

II. REPLACEMENT OF ADVISORS

- Through its communication with and observation of hundreds of chapter delegates, KS Gamma observed a direct correlation between advisor involvement and chapter performance such that high performing chapters tend to have passionate highly involved advisors, and vice versa.
- During the last business meeting, Association President Rachel Alexander suggested that chapters with inactive advisors should contact Director of Alumni Affairs Tricia Gomulinski to source a list of nearby alumni; Alexander expressed that inactive advisors should be replaced, since their collective role is paramount to the success of collegiate chapters.
- Alexander also expressed that collegiate chapter advisors needn't be university faculty as far as the Association is concerned. Note that K-State requires at least one faculty advisor for RSOs.

III. RESHAPING OUR CULTURE

- What other chapters do successfully:
 - i. At the end of every General Body Meetings (GBM) & Executive Meetings, other chapters recite the Tau Beta Pi code of ethics.
 - ii. As will be mentioned later, the "create your own Bent" competition fosters spirit for TBP.
 - iii. By regulating regalia, chapters have found that it garners more respect and prestige.
 - iv. Actively rewarding "integrity and excellence" in the college supports our code of ethics.
 - v. Many chapters schedule personal introductions for the current advisors and incoming officers, so that transition is smoother.
 - vi. Many chapters forgo GBMs and instead use weekly/monthly newsletters to keep members up to date and aware of chapter goals and activity. Some include TBP motto, code of ethics, and other promotional snippets; others include useful reminders about college activities and/or industry related events and news. All chapters lean away from creating another newspaper and keep the letter short as a quick read. (KS G note: KSU has advertising channels where we can be mentioned and promoted, Ex: monthly engg newsletter, hallway screens, ESC reminders, etc.)
- New ideas from collaborative brainstorming:
 - i. Actively discouraging the slander of actual Greek houses and life, this promotes character and integrity while respecting other chapters. May be especially effective with TBP members and candidates who are involved with Greek life.
 - ii. Making more fun and targeted animations and imagery of TBP could catch people's attention easier and keep reputation relevant.
 - iii. Include parents in the after-initiation banquet. LET IT BE KNOWN; ONLY Tau Beta Pi members and candidates can attend the initiation ceremony.

Figure 33: Page 2 of 4

- iv. Send informational pamphlets and/or bookmarks inside all mailed invitations, so that the readers are immediately supplied with literature about TBP.
 - v. Present to freshman orientation classes so that students are immediately aware of what TBP is and does for the college. Must stress how TBP contributes to the community and how TBP can serve them during their undergrad years.
- IV. ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER**
- Convention business meetings were governed by Robert's Rules, where a chairperson presided and strictly controlled each speaker's floor time. This allowed for respectful and timely debate of committee actions. Moving forward, Robert's Rules will apply to our executive meetings in the interest of our officers' time.
- V. SUCCESSFUL EVENTS (in other chapters)**
- "Design your bent" competition. University of Ohio – Akron, OH Kappa
 - i. Members used what they had available to create a replication of the bent which was judged by officers. The winner's replication is hung in the engineering hall. All keep their replication. This promotes personal expression and appreciation for the Bent.
 - Halloween Haunt House
 - i. This ticketed event raised money for the chapter and engages the whole university.
 - ii. The section of the engineering hall was closed for decoration. TBP members would operate the "house" and scare attendees. School was very helpful.
 - "Tau Beta Prom"
 - i. KS Alpha at KU, CA Epsilon at UCLA, and multiple other chapters expressed that they either host, have hosted, or know of other nearby chapters who have hosted engineering formal. Every reported formal was successful in the following ways:
 - 1. Providing value to engineering students at large;
 - 2. Promoting the image of collegiate chapters within their colleges;
 - 3. Improving chapter pride;
 - 4. Providing networking opportunities by attracting participants from other nearby chapters.
 - Trivia Teams
 - i. Other chapters have members team up and compete in local restaurant/bar trivia contests.
 - BBQ/Cookout
 - i. A TBP officer at another chapter gathers other school orgs for a collaborative cookout each year. Those organizations must balance their annual budget to zero to increase their semesterly allocation; otherwise, their yearly allocation is reduced by half the amount of their yearly budget surplus. A TBP officer organizes the cookout so that the other orgs contribute their remaining funds on the meats and groceries to zero their budget at year's end.
 - ii. Promotes interorganizational networking and socializing.
 - iii. Minimal cost to TBP.
 - Yearly Customizable Ice-Cream Reveal
 - i. OH Kappa at University of Akron reported that they have a local ice cream store create a custom flavor of ice cream and that they pay for the first 30 people (excluding officers) to try their ice cream in the city park and play lawn games. Successful because townies get involved in addition to TBP members.
 - FE (Fundamentals of Engineering) Exam Preparation
 - i. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, IL Alpha
 - ii. The chapter hosts sessions where professors agree to help students review FE material and give general lessons on the material.

Figure 34: Page 3 of 4

- iii. Lots of attendance from across the school.
 - Rube Goldberg
 - i. The chapter helped run a yearly Rube Goldberg event at the local middle school where the TBP chapter decided the challenge for the machine to accomplish, and kids had time to do it, and the designs were judged by a separate TBP panel to decide donated prize.
 - ii. The winners got college swagger which promotes TBP and the local college.
- VI. **NEW EVENT IDEAS (based on collaboration and brainstorming with other chapters)**
 - Building on its objections Association marketing materials, KS Gamma could host a Tau Beta Pi poster design competition. All members could submit one poster design, and three winning posters could be selected via a chapter vote on Canvas. The three posters with the highest number of votes could then be sent to the Public Relations committee at the 2024 Convention in the spirit of providing constructive criticism. Could also consider a website design competition. May be able to offer a scholarship to the winner of the competition(s).
 - Since "Pi-Day" doesn't occur while school is in session, we could repurpose it as "Leftover Pi-Day". Also having a professor be 'pied' by a whip cream pie that the winner of the "recite the leftover digits of Pi" challenge would get to do.
 - Coordinating some sort of fundraising, community service, or at least social events with nearby collegiate & alumni chapters may strengthen local districts and provide networking for members.
 - During sport seasons, coordinating with nearby chapters to host the opposing school's chapter when that team plays at the host's school.
 - When TBP nationals host virtual workshops about industry topics, we could host watch parties and even collaborate with other organizations if the topic fits their area of interest.
 - Communicating with businesses for workshops, presentations, facility tours, etc., to provide professional networking and professional development opportunities for members.
- VII. **NEST (New Engineering Solutions for Tomorrow)**
 - National NEST Director: Christopher Potts, tbp.nest@tbp.org . NY Mu, located in Phillipsburg, NJ
 - Chris had much fervor for this pilot project of his and is willing to do everything he can to get chapters involved. He offered to hold a video conference with any officers, advisors, and general members in-session to explain the program. Also, he is willing to send any material that may further explain the program. Website: <https://tbpnest.wixsite.com/home>
 - The gig is this: NEST Committee at yearly national convention votes on what societal problem needs addressing, for 2023-2024 it is **Waste Management**. Students then solve the problem however they wish by creating a solution to be proposed (or pitched) to a judge panel (which acts like company reviewing the proposal). This happens the following year, so the students have a full year to work out the proposal. After the proposal is accepted, it becomes a project to be prototyped over the following year, after which the prototype and proposal will then be presented in the same manner as before. This second phase can happen repeatedly and infinitely, which replicates the design process and implementation that occurs in industry.
 - Chris talked about how once a project is started as a solution to its originating year's societal problem, it can be paused and held in chapter archives as a project to be resumed by future members if they so wish. Different disciplines and classes can work on the same project.
 - Chris was open and willing to let the program grow to suit the desires of chapters, including letting it be used as senior projects and/or be considered for capstone projects.
 - Chris also recommends that the chapter has an advisor that monitors the projects, or a committee set up to help facilitate the process. He also talked about how a NEST coordinator in every district is part of the long-term goals of establishing this program, along with NEST competitions at district and national conventions.

Figure 35: Page 4 of 4

VIII. K12 MINDSET PROGRAM

- KS Gamma has previously considered participating in the K12 Mindset program but ruled it out for concerns about the logistics challenges and commitment it would require. Nationals stressed that there is no material commitment to begin hosting sessions, and that they will be very flexible with chapters who want to participate in the program.

IX. MAJOR POSITIONS EXPRESSED BY KS GAMMA

- President Divilbiss served as a co-chair of the Program Review Committee, on which he advocated for the approval of four BS programs and three MS programs as eligible programs of study for Tau Beta Pi candidates. All 7 programs were approved by the Convention. Two additional programs were retracted from consideration by their chapter.
- Divilbiss expressed to the Convention that Media Director McLeod and he refuse to use the Association's printed marketing materials because they all look as if they were designed pre-circa 2005. He also expressed that the Association's website is incredibly out of date, difficult to navigate, and appears to be written in basic HTML. Further, it was exclaimed that Tau Beta Pi is an organization with thousands of computer scientists and computer engineers and a trust valued at \$38,000,000, and none of its marketing materials are visually representative of said metrics.
- Finally, Divilbiss expressed KS Gamma's aversion to the Association's online reporting system, stating that its dated disfunction creates many problems for those reporting and receiving data. He reaffirmed that there is no excuse for an organization of many computer design professionals to have such a terrible system and pleaded with the Convention to make a new system.

X. INTERORGANIZATIONAL POLITICS

- Romero, Gomulinski, & O'Keefe; During the second District 9 meeting, a general discussion about the challenges facing our district's chapters took place. While expressing KS Gamma's challenges, President Divilbiss stated that the Chapter had effectively been instructed not to fundraise from alumni in general. District 9 Director Matt Romero passionately took issue with this. Romero expressed his plan to contact Executive Director Curt Gomulinski for further direction on how the Association can pursue a resolution to the challenge. KS Gamma made no request for or against Romero's initiative.

XI. CHAPTER STANDARDS (as observed in other chapters)

- Regalia is regulated
 - i. Through usage of a point system, members are restricted from having regalia depending on their active status or point accumulation.
 - ii. "Bottom" tier allows for no regalia.
 - iii. "2nd" tier allows members the option to buy their regalia.
 - iv. "Top" tier allows members to have regalia courtesy of the chapter.
- Active vs. Inactive Membership Status
 - i. Most chapters have points systems to determine this based on factors such as: Responsiveness to surveys, community service participation, social activity attendance.
- General Body Meetings
 - i. Typically held once or twice a month with possible offering of refreshments
 - ii. Purposes: Laying out scheduled events, informing the general body of changes to the chapter; providing updates on Chapter goals, projects and initiatives.
 - iii. Turnout is typically low, which causes Chapters to stop holding them.
- Awards, based on participation, interaction, leadership, etc.
 - i. Plaques, statues, "crystal"
 - ii. 3D printed bents
 - iii. Dessert treats
 - iv. Public recognition through announcements

16 Signature Social

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 10/18/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Chapter Development
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Advisor	1
Officers	6
Members	4
Electees	6

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
1.0	2.5

2. Project Evaluation

- i. **General Description**

During fall 2023, this event served as the final deadline for many candidacy requirements. The chapter holds this pizza-party social where candidates are introduced to members and officers as they turn in their signature book, which serves a major role in the candidacy process. This event helps candidates collect signatures from general members to finish their signature books, since a collection of members can be found in one place at one time.
- ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

This event serves to introduce candidates into the chapter's community and foster relationships between current members and the candidates. Candidates are made to feel recognized by their peers as current members are made aware of their distinguished scholarship and exemplary character.
- iii. **Organization and Administration**

The Initiation Committee was loose in their planning and communication which led to their poor execution of this event. Other officers had to step in and take charge to make sure the event wasn't a total wash. Clean-up was easy and there was no leftover pizza. The event was

posted in an announcement and on the calendar on our Canvas course, to keep general members aware of its time and date.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$56.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

(7 pizzas) * (\$8/pizza) = \$56. Enough officers showed up to facilitate the event successfully.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

The Initiation Committee was poorly led and didn't organize the retrieval of pizza or show up to set-up tables, and Membership Coordinator Emily Pine was only present for the last half of the event. Multiple signature books were carelessly assembled. It was apparent that stricter signature book requirements should be explored, since the submission of disorganized and incomplete books devalued the effort of those members who carefully prepared their books.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

President Nick Divilbiss other officers felt it was successful given the last-minute challenges brought on by the Initiation Committee's lack of oversight. Multiple general members showed up for pizza and stayed for conversation, which was a great opportunity for receiving feedback from members on the chapter's recent activities, and for officers to reconnect with previously inactive members. The signature books where submitted without regard to previously established standards and a few of them were so poorly prepared that they should have resulted in the disqualification of candidates. Much sustained conversation took place in different groups which complimented each other. Advisor Paul Snider was present and greatly contributed to conversations.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 36: Plenty of chatter!



Figure 37: Pizza atop our fancy tablecloth



Figure 38: Adivsor Snider caught the camera eye



17 KS-Hill Cleanup & Whitewashing

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 11/04/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☒ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☒ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☐ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Advisor	1
District 9 Director	1
Officers	3
Members	2
Electees	4

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
2.0	5.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

With the 1974 merger of Sigma Tau and Tau Beta Pi, Kansas Gamma inherited this annually recurring project of maintaining a large civic monument on the South side of Manhattan, Kansas. The monument is an 80-feet-tall set of concrete "KS" letters resting on a nearly vertical slope on the side of Prospect Hill, more commonly known as "K-Hill." The K and S were constructed in 1921 and 1930, respectively, by student members of the former Epsilon Chapter of the Sigma Tau Fraternity. Kansas State University now owns the land where the monument is located, and since 1974, Kansas Gamma has provided the labor required to (a) keep the monument free and clear of vegetation and (b) whitewash the letters with a cement/lime mixture once every fall. The people of Manhattan recognize the structure as a historically significant monument.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

This annual event serves the community of Manhattan by keeping its cherished monument in a good and proper condition. By keeping the monument clean and maximally visible, Kansas Gamma also honors its alma mater by demonstrating that its students have the grit and perseverance to accomplish such a challenging feat. By sharing such a daring mission, the members

and candidates experience a unique sense of camaraderie. As later described herein, a local newspaper published an article that describes the event and our society, thereby bolstering the image of the Tau Beta Pi Association and the Kansas Gamma Chapter.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

Media Director Grace McLeod contacted the local paper, The Manhattan Mercury, about our scheduled whitewashing and invited them to attend. This resulted in a front-page feature in the newspaper. A week ahead of the event, rentable power equipment, namely leaf blowers and hedge trimmers, were reserved at the local Waters Hardware store. The gas-powered trimmers wouldn't start, so we were given a gas generator and electric trimmer, free of charge. The Chapter has a large stock of lime and cement just for this annual project. On the morning of the event, Events Director Dalton Rizzo and President Nick Divilbiss hauled bags of lime and cement to KS-Hill and picked up the rental equipment. The rest of the tools and equipment, which included chemical safety suits, safety glasses, respirators, gloves, and buckets, were in The Chapter's inventory and were brought to the site in the morning. To make room for parking, the tall grass atop the hill was mowed. One vital ingredient that we needed was water, which came in a Riley County Fire Department engine. They were notified of our chosen date a month in advance, so that they'd be ready and have crew to work the event. They are also present in the case of an emergency, since they are trained first responders. This project is historically important to the Chapter, so discussion about its organization begins early in the fall. It is a service requirement for candidates, so we must select and advertise the date to them as soon as possible. Our Chief Advisor Andy Fund always attends the event from year to year and has the most experience with the hill and monument. He also has climbing equipment that is used to scale up and down the concrete letters as we clear brush. Since this monument has much tradition and the event itself is vital to The Chapter, we invited our District 9 Directors to the event, and Matt Romero attended and bought the group pizza at AJ's afterwards and joined us in the meal.

iv. **In Conjunction With**

Riley County Fire Department, Manhattan Mercury

v. **Total Cost**

\$141.37

vi. **Cost Breakdown**

\$8.52 for one case of water bottles. \$132.82 to rent one leaf blower & two hedge trimmers. The number of people who attended met the bare minimum for completion of the mission. If we had any less people, then the event would've either taken the entire day, or we would've had to return to finish another day. During a portion of the event, President Divilbiss and Secretary Wolf were repelling up and down the letters. Event Director Rizzo guided and watched over the group as they scaled the hill.

vii. **Special Problems Encountered**

The slope that the letters are on slowly loses dirt over time due to erosion. This leaves fewer places for safe footing for those that climb up and down the slope as we eradicate weeds and form a bucket brigade for whitewashing. This could be solved by casting concrete steps in places over the coming years. The rental company also gave us trouble, for one of the hedge trimmers wouldn't start. There was also an overcast at the start of the day, but it only sprinkled in the beginning then stopped.

viii. Overall Evaluation

SUCCESS: The Mercury's feature article talks about the history of monument, specifically how it was constructed and how it is now under our care. The article names Tau Beta Pi, then specifically how responsibility of the upkeep belongs to Kansas Gamma. This feature gives Manhattan residents insight into the monument's caretakers, and the purpose of our society. President Divilbiss is quoted in the article saying, "What the national society exists for is to mark people who honor their alma mater and who display excellence and integrity in engineering." All the attendees put in a respectable amount of effort and were not afraid to work. Most participants in the event proved to be loyal and supportive members throughout the rest of the academic year, so this event was successful in fostering the relationships between those general members and officers. Those who attended expressed accomplishment and satisfaction with being a part of the tradition. President Divilbiss and Chief Advisor Fund, who were the only ones with past experience on the hill, were satisfied with the job and result. Later discussion between officers revealed disappointment in other general members for their lack of willingness to assist with the project, thus highlighting a lack of obligation and reverence for the Chapter within the general membership. This is a problem that we are aiming to alleviate, which has seen progress over the academic year. The discussion also consisted of worry for the safety and structural integrity of the monument, which promoted brainstorming of ideas to improve the site, but we came to the conclusion that any improvements would require sizeable funding. We agreed that the newspaper article will hopefully bring the problem into the light and motivate the University and/or City to act. We will continue to use caution and practice safe action while working on the hill. Overall, we found this iteration of the event to be more successful than past iterations.

3. Additional Attachments

Figure 39: Local newspaper puts TBP on the front page



Figure 40: 2023 KS Hill Crew Group Photo



Figure 41: Dean Fund Lowers Rec. Sec. Allison Wolf Down the Hill



Figure 42: Events Dir. Rizzo and two candidates proudly hold their unique find



18 November Bent Decoration

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 11/05/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	3
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
0.3	1.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

At the beginning of every month, Tau Beta Pi members decorate our Bent monument according to the month's corresponding themes and holidays.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

This activity helps general engineering students and visitors notice our Bent monument, potentially inspiring them to investigate its purpose. Students that already know of the monument may talk about its decor with those who don't, thus spreading word about the chapter and increasing recognition of Tau Beta Pi at K-State. The event also facilitates socialization and comradery between Tau Beta Pi members, nurturing a sense of community within our chapter.

iii. Organization and Administration

Events Director Dalton Rizzo purchased general decor from the local Walmart. The event was posted on our Canvas course to inform general members of its time and date. For this event we began accepting suggestions from chapter members via a suggestion box survey assignment on Canvas which served as a means of collecting ideas from our general body, thereby giving them a feeling of ownership of the design, and further motivating them to attend.

iv. Total Cost

\$23.32

v. **Cost Breakdown**

The entire cost was from purchasing harvest-season decor, which included miniature scarecrows and pumpkins. The personnel requirement was minimal; one half-hour for three members.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

Only the same three officers from the October Bent Decoration were in attendance. By November, the bent decoration series was off to a slow start, but we had high hopes that consistency hosting the event each month would lead to an increase in regular attendance. The decorations are regularly scheduled, so we expected to see different members attend different decoration event.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

The Bent was sufficiently decorated in a festive harvest mood. Not as many comments were received from general students on this month's decor. The finished product was captured as an image to be shared on Kansas Gamma's social media accounts. We also improvised hand-turkeys with construction paper we had in stock, which brought back memories of elementary school, but they were unfortunately added after we took the picture for social media.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 43: Happy Thanksgiving from the Bent!



19 Sunflower Sabotage @ KS Alpha

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 11/17/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Assisting Local TBP Chapter
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	4
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
2.0	2.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

Chapter officers voted to assemble a secret task force who traveled from Manhattan, KS to Lawrence, KS under the cover of darkness to decorate the KS Alpha Bent monument in an overwhelming amount of K-State gear (with a smidge of red and blue for KU) in preparation for the 2023 Sunflower Showdown rival football matchup between the University of Kansas Jayhawks and the Kansas State University Wildcats. For context, we have a long history of friendly pranks.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

The operation had multiple purposes which served to benefit both the KS Alpha and Gamma chapters, along with the Association as a whole. Both local chapters had struggled to remain relevant and visible within their respective colleges. Lauren Wolf, President of KS A, informed KS G delegates, during the 2023 National Convention, of many of the problems facing her chapter. One of those problems was lack of pride in and visibility of Tau Beta Pi at the University of Kansas. Having the same issues at K-State, KS G officers devised a plan to create attention for both chapters by tapping into students' interests in the annual Sunflower Showdown which occurs each time the KU and K-State football teams face off in a rivalry matchup. Knowing that many students follow those games closely, KS G officers decided to

decorate the KS A Bent in K-State gear the night before the showdown and to publicize the sabotage by posting it on the @ksutbp Instagram page and tagging @taubetapiatku in the post. The friendly gesture was meant to stir up controversy and therefore get people at both schools talking about Tau Beta Pi. The gesture was well received by President Wolf, who said that the decorations were so beautiful that she planned to leave them up for as long as possible. Many K-State students saw the post, and our Chief Advisor Assistant Dean Andy Fund loved the idea.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

The event was wholly organized and administered by the KS Gamma student chapter officers. The officers voted in favor of the event, and self-elected to participate in its execution on the first night of fall break. President Divilbiss and Events Director Rizzo collected supplies during the days leading up to the event. Four officers met at the K-State College of Engineering at 5:00 pm on the night of the event to prepare the decorations, which included a handmade purple and white paper chain that was over 120 feet long.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

President Divilbiss and Events Director Rizzo carpooled to the site, while Membership Coordinator Pine and Awards Director Bash stopped to assist on their way to the Kansas City area. Rizzo and Divilbiss covered the decoration expenses.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

Though President Divilbiss had previously scoped out the location of KS Alpha's Bent, there was an unexpected amount of vehicular and pedestrian traffic in the surrounding area when the task force arrived with their decorations at approximately 7:30 pm. The officers had to wait for the perfect opportunity to cross the busy street between KU's engineering building and staff parking lot without being spotted by any pesky KU students who could foil their plan.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

The event was successful because it stirred up interest in both chapters. It made students at KU stop and wonder what the purpose of the K-State themed Bent monument on their campus was. Even before the event began, it made K-State students inquire as to the purpose of the paper chain that stretched across the entire length of the engineering atrium. Those students were very excited about the idea once they were informed what Tau Beta Pi is and what its plan of attack was. One outcome KS G hopes to achieve is a continuation of annual friendly pranks between Kansas chapters, as students are typically very passionate about school rivalries, and Tau Beta Pi stands to benefit for their passion if its events contribute to their school pride. KS G hopes to stir up pride and involvement in the struggling KS A chapter by metaphorically poking the bear (Jayhawk), and hopes to see KS A transform into a healthy active chapter with passionate membership,

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 44: The masterpiece in all its glory



Figure 45: Selfie of Divilbiss, Pine, and Rizzo



Figure 46: Just look at that paper chain!



Figure 47: Pine and Rizzo



Figure 48: So long; so magnificent



20 Fall 2023 Chapter Banquet

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 11/28/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☐ Custom
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☒ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☒ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Advisor	1
District 9 Director	2
Alumni	3
Members	10
Electees	8

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
10.0	2.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

After the initiation ceremony, our chapter hosts a banquet available to all members so that they may socialize and become familiar with the newly initiated members. During the banquet, we also aim to have a keynote speaker that gives a speech about any topic concerning professional and/or character development. For this iteration of the banquet, we added a State of the Chapter address to the banquet, with the aide of a slideshow, the president informs the chapter about events that occurred over the semester, current projects, and future plans. This acts as our general body meeting, in which members are personally brought up to date with the chapter's activity.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

This event cultivates relationships between current members and newly initiated members, so that the new members feel welcomed into the chapter community at our college. We also give everyone the chance to hear from the keynote speaker as they talk about developing one's self as an engineer, thus serving as entertainment and a lesson that we hope members apply in their studies and life.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

This event is also vital to our chapter's function, so we plan the date early in the semester, if not before the semester begins, and reserve the room quickly. Once the room was reserved, the event was posted on our Canvas course as an assignment and as announcements to keep general members aware of the time and date. A week before the event, a catering order was made with the barbecue restaurant to be delivered to our chosen room. President Divilbiss created the State of the Chapter address in the week leading up the event. After the initiation ceremony, the officers had to quickly rearrange the room for banquet seating. A trivia section, with prizes, was included in the State of the Chapter address, so we took inventory of what we had available, which was t-shirts. After the event, officers split the leftover food, cleaned the room up, and transported all our supplies back to our inventory.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$472.02

v. **Cost Breakdown**

\$88 = Union room reservation. \$384.02 = Cox Bros barbecue catering. Since the initiation ceremony was before the banquet, plenty of officers and members were present to arrange the room for the banquet setting.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

President Divilbiss and Event Director Rizzo failed to secure an outside keynote speaker. We then asked the locally renowned Dr. Kimberly Kramer to give a speech.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

SUCCESS: Dr. Kimberly Kramer has a Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering and a Master of Science & Ph.D. in Civil Engineering. Besides her formal education, Dr. Kramer has also practiced her knowledge in the industry for over twenty years, where she reached the position of Director of Structural Engineering at GideonToal, Inc., and is the current co-owner of KDK Engineering, LLC. Thus, Dr. Kramer has much experience in the industry and used it in talking to the banquet crowd about accepting one's failures then building upon them. That night she was initiated as an Eminent Engineer and is currently the Director of Graduate Studies in Architectural Engineering at Kansas State University, where she teaches many different courses. After her speech, President Divilbiss gave the State of the Chapter presentation, which included current membership statistics, recent achievements, future plans, and a trivia game. The newly initiated members enjoyed the trivia game as it helped reiterate information they acquired for their signature books. We had two alumni as guests that evening, a Mr. David Gustafson and a Mrs. Katie Lilly. Our district directors, Brent Barcus and Matt Romero, were also in attendance. Matt Romero took a moment to speak about his experiences in Tau Beta Pi which included the nation wide community of TBP members that influenced his career. Overall, members were involved through the whole banquet and nearly none left prematurely. President Divilbiss finished the night by leading the TBP Yell; everyone's favorite part of the night.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 49: President Divilbiss delivers State of The Chapter Address



Figure 50: Dr. Kimberly Kramer gives us her professional insight



Figure 51: The group initiated in the preceding ceremony



Figure 52: The officer board (L-R): Rizzo, Bash, VanderLeest, Divilbiss, Johnson, Wolf, Pine, McLeod



21 Missouri Delta Initiation

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 12/01/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Assisting Local TBP Chapter
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
0.5	6.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

Two officers from the Kansas Gamma Chapter, Nick Divilbiss and Dalton Rizzo drove from Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas to the University of Missouri at Kansas City on a Friday night to attend the Missouri Delta Chapter's fall initiation ceremony. After the initiation ceremony, the Kansas Gamma officers joined a group of newly initiated members and officers of Missouri Delta for an evening meal at Bo Lings on The Plaza. Our two members were glad to meet members of Missouri Delta as they engaged with multiple members in the group and showed that the TBP community is widespread.

Drove to KC, MO-D initiation, Bo-Ling's, Drove home, Stopped at KS-A bent,
Preached about Canvas course, Bent-O-Rama, MO-D was not aware of BoR

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

The purpose was to support a local chapter by having their new members see TBP is more than their local chapter and it's important to others across District Nine.

iii. Organization and Administration

The Kansas City Alumni Chapter advised all local collegiate chapter presidents of the Missouri Delta Chapter's scheduled initiation ceremony and forwarded an online sign-up form for the

event. All officers and members of the Kansas Gamma Chapter were encouraged to attend the ceremony to show support for the Missouri Delta Chapter.

iv. **In Conjunction With**

Missouri Delta Chapter, Kansas City Alumni Chapter

v. **Total Cost**

\$60.0

vi. **Cost Breakdown**

Two officers carpooled together in a personal vehicle to Kansas City and back. All expenses were paid out of pocket.

vii. **Special Problems Encountered**

No special problems were encountered.

viii. **Overall Evaluation**

MINOR SUCCESS: Both Kansas Gamma officers are familiar with the District 9 Directors, Brent Barcus and Matt Romero, so catching up with them was splendid. It was also delightful to converse with the Missouri Delta President, Katie Butler, for both Kansas Gamma officers became acquainted with her during the Atlanta National Convention. We were glad to show support for their chapter; there are some concerns though. We saw that their chapter is struggling with membership and involvement, since we didn't see any general members in attendance at the ceremony. In our opinion, the speakers for the parts of the ceremony didn't take a serious tone and the ceremony felt rushed. To our surprise, the officer elections were held immediately after the conclusion of their ceremony, during which there was not much incentive or motivation from the new members to become officers. We sympathize with this situation, for in our recent past we've had trouble filling officer positions with motivated candidates. When their school reorganized rooms and storage, they threw out all their chapter's belongings, so we sympathized with them over the loss of records. After much conversation after the ceremony and the dinner succeeding the ceremony, the Missouri Delta chapter officers speculated on attendance to our initiation ceremony in the spring of 2024. They would like to see how our ceremony is supplemented by a dinner directly after the ceremony and in the same room, which also hosts a "State of the Chapter" slideshow and miniature Tau Beta Pi trivia game for members. Considering this reconnaissance, we shall aim to stay connected to other chapters, including attending their initiation ceremonies and inviting them to ours, which will enrich the community within District 9.

22 Kansas State Tau Beta Pi Alumni Network

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 12/01/23 - 06/01/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Outreach
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Director of Alumni Affairs	1
Members	99
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
4.0	0.5

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

The project was to create a private alumni group specifically for former student members of Kansas Gamma and the Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Tau. 99 alumni (including some current students) have successfully been recruited into the group and are now in constant contact with the chapter for the first time since they graduated. This is the group's URL: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/9554213/>

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

The purpose of the group has evolved since its inception. Initially, the purpose was not very clear, but we knew that having no contact with our alumni was a serious problem that had plagued the chapter for years. We currently view the group as a way to keep our alumni informed about and engaged in the chapter's initiatives and achievements. Our vision for the group is that it will become a supportive network between K-State Tau Bates of all ages, keeping the highest achieving K-State Tau Bates connected for life. We want the group to be a vehicle with which our devoted members can continue delivering their support for Kansas Gamma and Tau Beta Pi after they graduate.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

The group was created by President Divilbiss who did much of the initial posting and recruiting. Since then, Media Director Grace McLeod has taken over posting in the group for the most part. Divilbiss, McLeod, and the chapter's LinkedIn account are group administrators. Tricia Gomulinski is a member of the group, and she has played a major role in recruiting new members. She has personally invited some, and she provided the email lists which the chapter used for its initial recruitment campaign. Divilbiss is currently vetting new members using the KS Gamma alumni spreadsheet provided by Gomulinski.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

There is zero cost associated with starting and maintaining an alumni group on social media. Only a few people need to be administrators of the group. It took a large effort to recruit the initial mass of members into the group, but that should get easier as we recruit more and more alumni.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

There were grand plans to send LinkedIn invites to all 3,000+ KS Gamma alumni members, but sadly that's not possible, since admins can only send invites to people they're connected with. Divilbiss tried a free trial of LinkedIn premium, but that only provided 25 free invites. These restrictions have significantly limited the chapter's ability to grow the group, so we are now planning to start a Facebook alumni group as well; that way, we can avoid LinkedIn's restrictions and reach more alumni.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

A MAJOR SUCCESS: Though we face limitations on the number of invites we wish to send, the alumni network has been a major asset to Kansas Gamma over the past semester. Many past presidents (earliest is from 1976!) have been recruited into the group, and some of them have actively reached out to talk about their time as officers. Specifically, we used the group to collect survey responses from our alumni to learn about their favorite TBP memories. We received nine responses, some of which are included on the attached slide from our new orientation slideshow. The survey responses were invaluable during the recruitment process this semester, as they allowed us to explain what our past members still look back on and find important say 5, 10, or 15 years down the road. This helped Kansas Gamma qualify its claim that TBP membership is a valuable and memorable experience. We now promote membership in our alumni group as one of the many reasons to join TBP.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 53: TBP KSG Alumni Network header

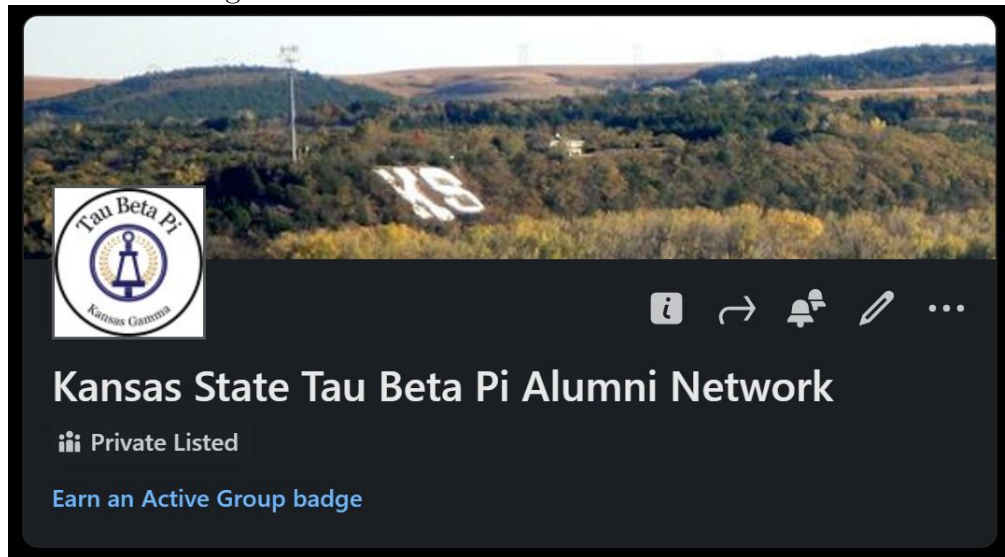


Figure 54: Alumni survey responses collected through the private group

Favorite Kansas Gamma Memories

The connection I was able to make with David Fritchen was what helped me down the career path that I wanted to move in. I'd give Tau Beta Pi credit for that and the first memories I had for a successful job interview and first job out of college.

Katie (Kroll) Lilly, KS G '11

My favorite were the community service events, which we did the roadway cleanup of a section of Tuttle Creek Blvd by Vista Drive-in and whitewashing of KS Hill letters. I specifically remember wearing old tennis shoes to the KS Hill day (so I didn't ruin a newer pair of shoes), and not thinking that the shoes were old enough that the tread had been worn down quite significantly. It was a fun day of slipping up and down the hill!

Kristen (Burke) Stewart, KS G '14

Cleaning and painting KS hill, being an officer, and the networking events!

Jacob Milburn, KS G '22

My favorite memories are attending the national and district conventions as well as hosting an Engineering Futures workshop. Those were events that helped me get a lot more out of membership. I'm really glad to hear from you and glad to hear the chapter is gaining momentum! The LinkedIn group is a great idea! Don't be afraid to reach out if I can be a resource for the chapter.

Brandon Fisher, KS G '20

I also was a part of a pattern of ArchE presidents. I believe we had several semesters where something like 80% of the presidents had been ArchE majors.

Damian Cyr, KS G '17

Volunteer work was always enjoyable, working with others towards a common goal. Without a cooperative engaging activity like that, it is hard to relate to and connect to other TBP members.

Derek Pockrandt, KS G '19

Getting pizza on Pi Day and volunteering to maintain KS Hill!

Austin Jueneman, KS G '16

I enjoyed working with everyone to clean up and whitewash the KS and telling those that didn't know about the history of it. Also hosting the district conference and the other opportunities we had to meet and interact with Tau Bates from other schools.

Caroline Kabus, KS G '17

Bickering with the secretary while I was TBP President. I ended up marrying him (Lucas Verschelden).

Hanging out with my ArchE TBP officer friends (Emily Garrison, Jacob Lenquist, etc). The non-Arch ones were cool too I guess - Lucas Verschelden, Damian Cyr, etc. Whitewashing the KS letters was always a blast.

December 2023 KS G alumni survey respondents

Tau Beta Pi—The Engineering Honor Society

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23 Restoration of Charter Certificates

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 12/03/23 - 04/05/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☐ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	1
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
3.0	12.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

After sitting in direct sunlight for decades in the engineering atrium, Kansas Gamma's charter certificates were heavily oxidized. To make matters worse, the wooden plaques on which the certificates were originally mounted had off-gassed into the certificates for 50-years which added to their discoloration and deteriorated condition. At some point before 2023, the documents had become such an eyesore that the college no longer wished to display them, so they were instead shoved in the bottom of the chapter's supply cabinet where they remained out of sight and mind for many years. Last year (2023), Kansas Gamma recognized that the state of our certificates was a symbol of the chapter's decline, and that they should be restored, preserved and proudly displayed as a symbol of the chapter's resilience and strength. An internet search in December 2023 led to the discovery of a paper conservator named Mark Stevenson in Kansas City who quoted \$350 for conservation treatment of both certificates. The Kansas Gamma Executive Board approved the expense, and the certificates were restored, reframed on acid free boards, and revealed just in time for the chapter's spring banquet and 50th anniversary celebration. Our next actions on this project will be to find an approved location to publicly display the charters.

ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

The purpose of this project was to transform a symbol of weakness and decline into one of strength and resilience, so that all K-State engineering students will see that we are proud to have a Tau Beta Pi chapter, and that they should be proud to join Tau Beta Pi once they become eligible.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

Conversations about restoring the certificates began back in 2022, but no action was taken until late 2023 when President Divilbiss began searching for quotes to determine if the project was feasible. The chapter was in a good financial position in the spring of 2024 and chose to approve the expense. So, for the first time in 50-years, the certificates left Manhattan (Kansas) and headed to Kansas City, where Mark (the Paper Fixer) Stevenson proceeded to treat them with an ancient chemical free technique called sun bleaching. The treatment did not take very long, and before we knew it, Stevenson called and said they were ready for pickup. President Divilbiss then picked them up and took them to a frame shop in Manhattan.

iv. **In Conjunction With**

Mark "The Paper Fixer" Stevenson

v. **Total Cost**

\$350.0

vi. **Cost Breakdown**

\$350 for conservation treatment. Divilbiss covered the framing expenses as a charitable contribution.

vii. **Special Problems Encountered**

There were few problems with this project. Heat from sunlight over many years had glued our supplemental Sigma Tau (Epsilon) merger certificate to the wood lacquer behind it, so Stevenson essentially had to dig into the wood to free the document and then carefully scrape off what remained on the paper. On the day Divilbiss was supposed to pick them up, he drove all the way to Stevenson's house in Kansas City and could not reach him. Stevenson felt bad and delivered the certificates the next day.

viii. **Overall Evaluation**

The transformation of our certificates turned out better than anyone expected, and we've received many compliments on the job. Notably, it wasn't a unanimous decision to restore the certificates. Some officers were opposed to the project, but they now see how much of a difference the restoration will make in the chapter's future. Without the certificates, we wouldn't have a chapter, so we are thrilled to have brought them back from their poor condition. We feel that the charter restoration project is a symbol of our collective chapter restoration efforts over the past 12 months. Moving forth, the chapter will see that the certificates are once again displayed in the atrium as symbols of pride and strength in our 'one strong engineering honor society.'

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 55: Receipt from Mark Stevenson

MARK STEVENSON
Conservator of Fine Art
and Historic Materials on Paper
P.O. Box 45326
Kansas City, MO 64171
816-931-4922

Nick Davillbiss
601 Laramie St.
Manhattan, KS

Conservation treatment of
two fraternity charters
due: \$200
\$150
\$350

Thank you
Mark Stevenson

April 5th, 2024
Nick Davillbiss

Figure 56: Certificates removed from wood plaques

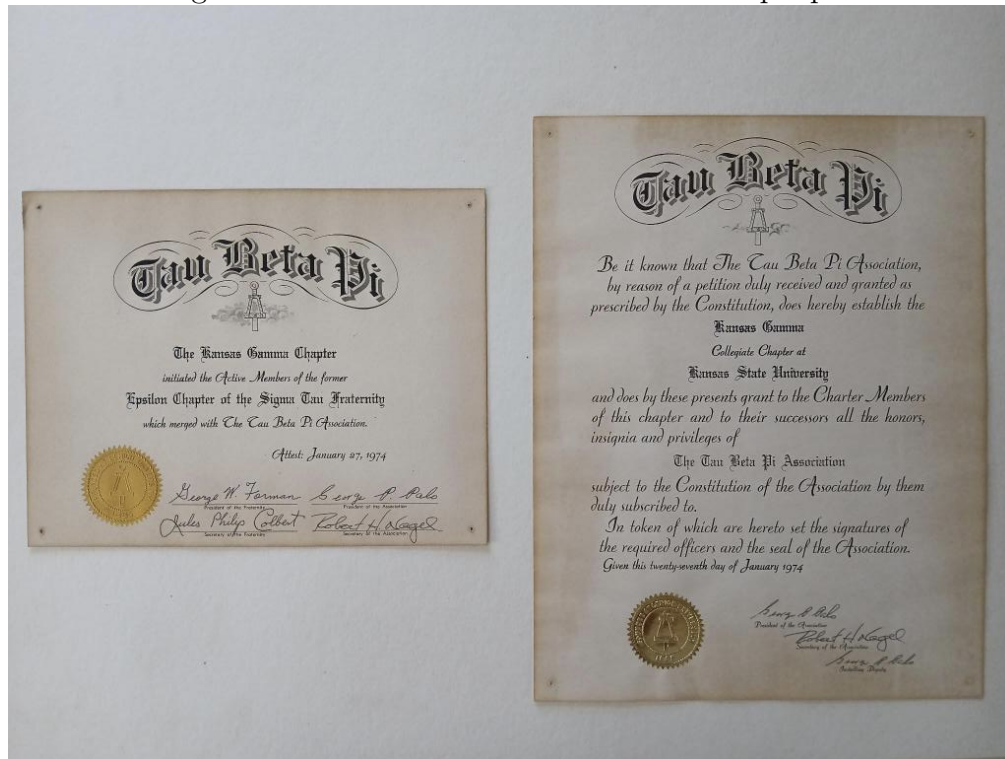


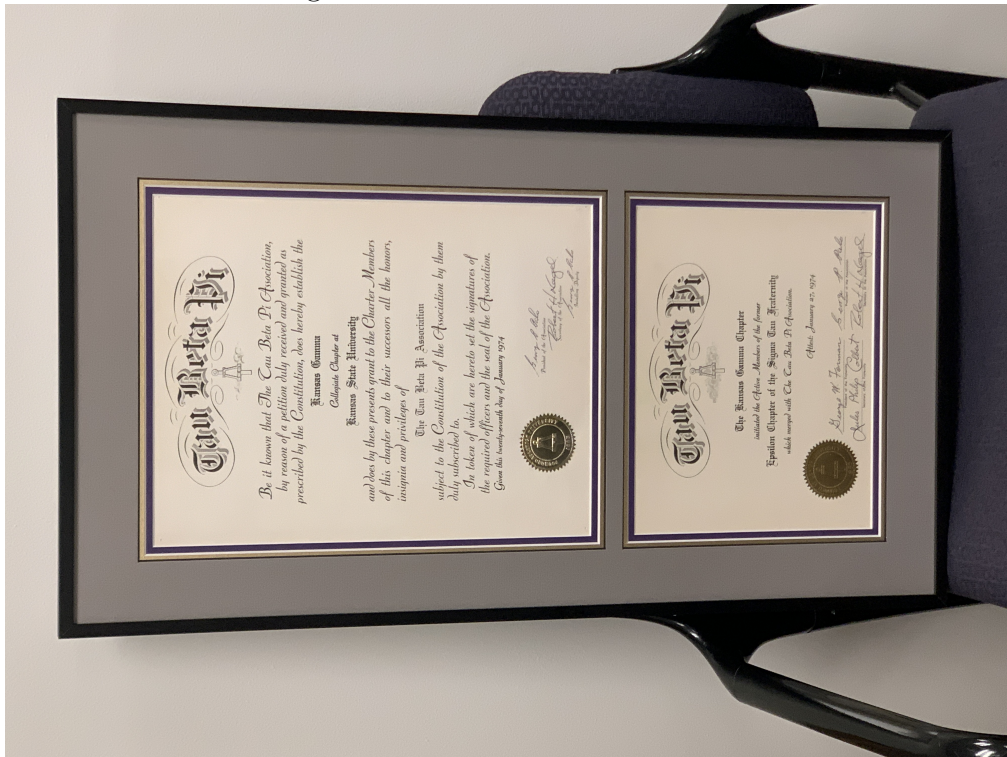
Figure 57: Wood stuck to supplemental charter



Figure 58: Certificates being sun bleached



Figure 59: Restored and reframed



24 December Bent Decoration

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 12/03/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	5
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
0.5	1.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

For every month of the semester, on the first reasonable Sunday of the month, the chapter decorates our Bent monument according to the themes and holidays of the month.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

By constantly and drastically changing its appearance each month, general engineering students and visitors are encouraged to notice The Bent, then they are potentially motivated to investigate its origins. Students that already know of The Bent may talk about the decor with other students, thus spreading word about the chapter and creating recognition for Kansas Gamma and Tau Beta Pi, which may bolster recruitment. The event also facilitates socializing between Tau Beta Pi members and nurtures the community within our ranks.

iii. Organization and Administration

Events Director Dalton Rizzo and President Nick Divilbiss led the group, who all stayed busy with their various tasks. The event was posted on our Canvas course (Canvas is the learning management software used by K-State) to keep general members aware of the event's time and date. The other three that attended were general officers-at-large.

iv. Total Cost

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

Christmas decor was already in KS-Gamma's inventory, so purchasing material was unnecessary. A proper number of members attended the event, which allowed for pleasant camaraderie and clean work.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

There was a slight concern for the heat generated by the lights and if it may combust the material that they were hung by. After checking on the decor throughout the following week, the heat from the lights is found to be next to nothing.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

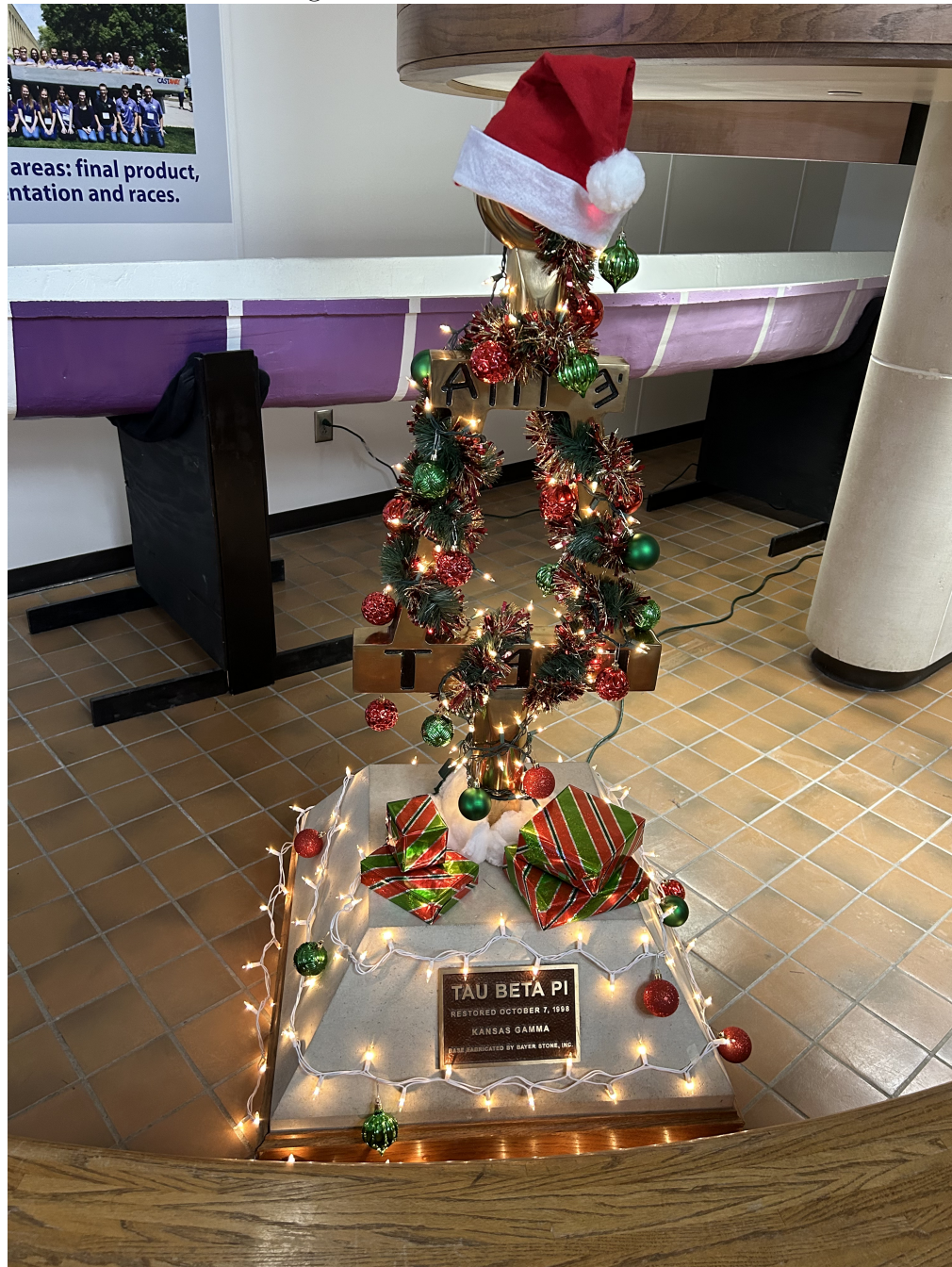
All members arrived at the Engineering Hall in timely manner on a bright and crisp Sunday afternoon and were excited to decorate the Bent with the decor in the chapter's inventory. The perfect number of attendees were present, such that there were enough members to effectively decorate without getting in each other's way. We decided that the Bent itself needed a repositioning, so two members were able to move the Bent by applying considerable force to the stone base. Everyone was satisfied with the decor and believed it fully captures the spirit of December and Christmas. The operation has proven to be successful so far since multiple members of Tau Beta Pi have commented on the decor while in conversation with officers. The decor also received good responses and praise from engineering administrators and the general student body. The event also effectively strengthened the bond between the members that were present.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 60: The decoration group proudly presents their work!



Figure 61: The Christmas Bent



25 Policy on Points System, Membership Status, and Regalia

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 12/06/23
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Chapter Development
 - ☒ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☒ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	11
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
4.0	1.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

This four-page policy originally defined the Kansas Gamma Chapter points system as well as eligibility standards for Tau Beta Pi regalia.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

The Kansas Gamma points system intends to provide a long-term solution to the issue of low general member participation in chapter events and operations by incentivizing active membership. The system is not intended as a means of forcing members to participate. The system is not intended as a punishment for low participation. It is meant to incentivize participation and to protect the symbolic value of Tau Beta Pi regalia so that it will represent distinguished scholarship, exemplary character, and dedication to the success of the Kansas Gamma Chapter in the pursuit of its mission. Regalia is a reward granted at the chapter's discretion. Students understand that professors do not grant A's in exchange for minimal effort. Similarly, the Chapter will not allow its members to wear regalia in exchange for completing only their candidacy requirements. Members should recall that during their initiation ceremony they each took an oath to heartily perform their duties both to their chapter and to Tau Beta Pi, and to preserve the continuity of their chapter, so that future students may be honored just the same. Ergo, the points system purely incentivizes members to uphold their oath.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

The policy was authored by President Divilbiss with input from the executive board. It was adopted unanimously by vote of the executive board.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

N/A.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

The points system was difficult to design as it had to be equitable for all, yet restrictive enough to accomplish its objectives.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

The points system has proven to be effective, but this original policy was cluttered, and it was difficult to discern between the interwoven provisions and commentary. This was a transformational document in the chapter's history.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 62: Page 1 of 4

2023-12-06 Policy on Points System, Membership Status, & Regalia TBP | KS G

Effective Date

This policy shall become effective at 12:00 AM on January 16th, 2024.

Supersession

This policy hereby revokes and replaces the Kansas Gamma Chapter's "Active Status Policy" dated March 3rd, 2020.

Introduction & Purpose

The Kansas Gamma points system intends to provide a long-term solution to the issue of low general member participation in chapter events and operations by incentivizing active membership. The system is not intended as a means of forcing members to participate. The system is not intended as a punishment for low participation. It is meant to incentivize participation and to protect the symbolic value of Tau Beta Pi regalia so that it will represent distinguished scholarship, exemplary character, and dedication to the success of the Kansas Gamma Chapter.

Members must understand that regalia is a reward granted at the chapter's discretion, and that no professor would give them an A in exchange for minimal effort. Thus, the chapter will not allow them to wear regalia in exchange for completing only their candidacy requirements. Members should recall that during their initiation ceremony they each took an oath to heartily perform their duties both to their chapter and to Tau Beta Pi as members, and to preserve the continuity of their chapter, so that future students may be honored just the same. So, the points system purely incentivizes members to do what they have already promised to do.

Membership Status

The points system shall divide the chapter's membership into three tiers: Inactive, active, and outstanding. Each member's eligibility for regalia shall be assigned based on their membership status during their graduation semester. The system shall also be used to track the chapter's 'active' membership for the purpose of chapter-wide voting on matters such as the ratification of Constitution ballots, amendments to Bylaws, candidate and officer elections, or any other matters which must be voted upon by the chapter's active membership per the Tau Beta Pi Constitution. For constitutional purposes, outstanding members shall be considered active members.

Administration

The points system shall be administered via the chapter's Canvas course. A custom grading scheme shall be used to automatically assign membership statuses based on each member's total score out of 100% in the Canvas gradebook. Scores shall be calculated cumulatively for the entire period during which the member is a 'student' in the Canvas course. All general members and most officers shall be students in the Canvas course to allow for tracking of points. Only the president, vice president, and committee chairpersons shall have non-student Canvas roles in addition to advisors and faculty who have teacher and observer roles by default, respectively. It is assumed that each of the collegiate officers listed above is active enough in their position to qualify as outstanding by default. However, closer inspection can be made if necessary, and all officers' membership statuses can be accurately determined if needed. The points system does not exist to reward those with specific titles.

Figure 63: Page 2 of 4

Tracking & Entering Points

Points shall be tracked with Canvas assignments (which include graded surveys), and assignment groups shall be weighted as described herein. Attendance at in-person events shall be tracked with attendance sheets (electronic or paper), and the vice-president shall be responsible for entering attendance-based point values into Canvas. Members shall be assigned full credit for an attendance assignment if they were present at its respective event and zero credit if they were absent. Hard copies of attendance sheets shall be kept in the chapter's files and shall also be scanned into the chapter's electronic filing system and stored with electronically generated attendance records. 'Graded surveys' shall be automatically graded by Canvas, and members shall receive full credit for each survey upon its completion.

Assignment Groups

Points-based assignments are subdivided into individual categories for two reasons: Firstly, it is imperative that all members physically participate in at least one chapter event per semester to gain active status, which shall be accomplished with careful consideration of grade thresholds and combinations of weighted categorical scores; and secondly, certain events are paramount to fulfillment of the chapter's objectives and obligations to the Tau Beta Pi Association, and therefore, they are individually grouped and weighted based on their importance.

Grade Thresholds

Membership statuses shall be determined based on members' total Canvas gradebook scores, and shall be defined as follows, with 'X' signifying a member's total gradebook score:

$00.00\% \leq X < 33.33\%$	=	Inactive
$33.33\% \leq X < 66.66\%$	=	Active
$66.66\% \leq X$	=	Outstanding

Grade Weighting

In addition to the reasons provided in the Assignment Groups section, two front-of-mind goals guided the selection of group weights: The points system must allow inactive members to work their way up to active status; and it must not allow one to gather points so easily that they may heartily participate for a discrete period of time before 'retiring' with excess points for the rest of their tenure.

The importance of the first goal is that the points system exists to incentivize every member's participation, so all inactive members must have the opportunity to elevate their status. Otherwise, the points system will fail to incentivize their participation. The importance of the second goal is that the points system must not let members stock up on points too easily, because then, they won't be incentivized to participate during their final semesters, when they have earned enough points to withdraw without consequence like a bear entering hibernation. To achieve both goals, groups weights shall be set as follows:

Initiation Ceremonies	20%
Engineering Futures	20%
Community Service Events	40%
Executive Meetings	10%

Figure 64: Page 3 of 4

Other Events	20%
Questionnaires	10%
Candidate & Officer Elections	20%
<u>Constitution Ballot Ratifications</u>	<u>10%</u>
Total	150%

Initiation ceremonies and community service events each have their own category because it is vital for members to attend them. Without members present, candidates will continue to form subconscious beliefs that these events are purely part of the initiation process, and that general members need not attend. Engineering futures has its own category because it is a beneficial professional development opportunity for attendees, and because the chapter must meet a certain attendance requirement set by Headquarters. Elections and constitution ratifications are standalone categories because the chapter is constitutionally required to have its active membership vote on those matters. The executive meetings category incentivizes general members to attend executive meetings, but primarily exists to recognize the dedication of officers who regularly attend meetings. However, it is weighted less than other categories because officers should not be able to replace their community service or initiation obligations with executive meeting attendance. Finally, other events and questionnaires exist as catch-all categories in which social events and miscellaneous Canvas surveys will fall. Many events will be added to the other events category each semester, so it is unlikely for members to score very highly in it. Canvas surveys require zero physical effort and can be done at home, so it is assumed that any member wishing to gain active or outstanding status will complete all surveys.

Categories are weighted by importance and allow members the flexibility to decide how they want to assemble their required percentage points. For example, a member who wishes to be active may complete all Canvas surveys in the questionnaire category, vote on all candidate elections in their respective category, and attend only initiation ceremonies as their in-person events. For another example, a member wanting to graduate as outstanding may go to all executive meetings, vote on all Canvas surveys, and attend one community service event per semester as well as Engineering Futures. It is up to each member to decide what status they wish to achieve and how they plan to earn the required points. Each member is a top engineering student, so it is assumed that they can determine a winning strategy.

Canvas scores are calculated out of 100%, which may be aptly thought of as 100 percentage points. During periods when constitutional ballots are cast, members may score as many as 150 percentage points throughout their tenure (they only need 66.66 points to achieve outstanding status). If no said ballots are cast, then members may score as many as 140 percentage points during the same period. 140 points is just more than double the score a member would need to average by their graduation semester to classify as outstanding. Therefore, a member who is part of the chapter for four full semesters and does not participate at all during their first two full semesters could still become an outstanding member by graduation if they work extremely hard and fully participate for two semesters.

Conversely, if the same member had a perfect participation rate over their first two full semesters, then they could 'retire' over the second two semesters. However, said member's contributions towards improving chapter culture over their first two semesters would likely be so significant that it would be acceptable for them to take time off at that point. Neither of these extreme examples are very likely, and it would be difficult, if not impossible, to score a perfect score in every category.

Figure 65: Page 4 of 4

2023-12-06

Policy on Points System, Membership Status, & Regalia

TBP | KS G

Eligibility for Regalia

Headquarters has been instructed to restrict purchases so that regalia may only be purchased by or through the chapter. Access to regalia is the primary reward governed by the points system and shall be determined by membership status during each member's graduation semester.

Inactive members shall be eligible for no rewards and shall not be permitted to purchase or wear any Tau Beta Pi regalia. Active members may wear graduation tassels and honor cords, which they may purchase from the chapter. Outstanding members shall receive free honor cords from the chapter and may also purchase tassels from the chapter. Only active or outstanding members who have served or are serving as chapter officers shall be eligible to wear stoles, which may be purchased from the chapter.

Regalia Purchases, Requests & Distribution

The chapter will maintain a reasonable stock of cords to be granted to or purchased by outstanding or active members, respectively. The chapter will not stock stoles or tassels, and member requests for these items must be made at the beginning of their semester of graduation. Every request shall be accompanied by a full non-refundable payment, and the chapter will not order stoles or tassels until the requestor has paid in full. No regalia will be distributed before the first day of the last two full weeks of members' respective graduation semesters. The president, vice president or an advisor shall collect payments, issue receipts, and distribute regalia.

Regalia Refunds

Should an active or outstanding member finish their graduation semester with inactive status after placing a regalia order, they will no longer be eligible to receive said regalia. They will not be eligible for a refund, for the chapter purchased regalia, per their request, in exchange for the consideration that said member would fund the regalia order and would also maintain at least active member status for the rest of their graduation semester.

Time is of the essence with respect to order requests. Should a member make an order request for a stole or tassel later than the beginning of their semester of graduation, they will not be eligible for a refund if their ordered regalia does not arrive before their graduation ceremony. The chapter will exert reasonable effort in delivering to them any regalia which arrives after graduation. For the purposes of this section, the beginning of a graduation semester shall be defined as the period beginning at 8:00 AM on the first day of classes and ending at 4:00 PM on Friday during the third full five-day week of the semester.

The chapter will refund the cost of any regalia ordered during the beginning of a member's graduation semester that is not delivered to the chapter before their graduation ceremony.

Questions & Concerns

Any member with concerns or questions about the points system shall first contact the chapter president to seek answers or resolutions. If they are unable to reach the president, or to find a resolution with the president, then they shall contact the chapter's chief advisor.

26 Revamp of Parent Letters

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 01/16/24 - 01/20/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Outreach
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☐ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Parents	176
Officers	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
4.0	4.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

Each semester, Kansas Gamma sends out promotional letters to the emergency contacts of every eligible candidate who is not already a member. In spring 2024, we revamped the letters, included the recently redesigned Tau Beta Pi brochures, and included an insert about our local chapter.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

This project was part of the overhaul of Kansas Gamma's candidacy process during spring 2024. Over time, the candidacy process had become impersonal, unprofessional, and lackadaisical. In fall 2023, the ball was dropped so hard that we only recruited 6 new student members, and half of them should've been rejected due to the poor quality and/or incompleteness of their signature books and electee exams. President Nick Divilbiss did not provide close enough oversight and discovered these issues too late into the process.

Motivated to never fail so badly again, the chapter was determined to reinvent its candidacy process in spring 2024 such that candidates would only be elected if they adhered to the highest of standards and if they qualified their interest by demonstrating proper knowledge of the history and purpose of the Tau Beta Pi Association, the Kansas Gamma Chapter, and the Epsilon

Chapter of Sigma Tau.

The purpose of this project was to ensure that only the finest and most dedicated candidates are initiated into Tau Beta Pi, and that they understand how meaningful their membership is. In ensuring these things, Kansas Gamma intends for its members to become devoted lifetime supporters of the Association and its objectives.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

President Divilbiss and Membership Director Emily Pine worked on the letters. Divilbiss typed up the new insert about Kansas Gamma which included a schedule of all twelve orientation sessions and a QR code to our chapter's Instagram profile.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$16.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

\$16.00 for brochure shipping charges. Usually, our chapter has to pay for postage, but we never received a bill this time.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

N/A

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

SUCCESS: The letters were much more informative and professional than in previous semesters, and the inserts told parents specifically what our chapter is all about, whereas the brochures told them more about the Association and its offerings such as scholarships. Many members have talked about how their parents pressured them into joining.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 66: Example of an old letter



September 2023

Darla Paulsen
7807 Mullen Rd
Lenexa, KS 66216-4806

Dear Parent(s):

Wyatt's high academic standing in the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering at Kansas State University permits the Kansas Gamma chapter to consider Wyatt for membership in Tau Beta Pi, the National Engineering Honor Society. Tau Beta Pi elects members who have distinguished themselves with outstanding scholarship and exemplary character. Membership in Tau Beta Pi marks a person as a leader among their fellow engineers.

Congratulations on Wyatt's invitation to join Tau Beta Pi. This is a very important recognition of your child's accomplishments as a student at Kansas State University. On behalf of all the members of the faculty, I extend to you and Wyatt sincere congratulations.

Tau Beta Pi is the second oldest Greek-letter honor society in America; the oldest is Phi Beta Kappa. Both societies are well known and respected throughout the United States. While the latter is restricted to students in the liberal arts, Tau Beta Pi is designed to "offer appropriate recognition for superior scholarship and exemplary character to engineering students and professional persons."

The first meeting for those eligible to join Tau Beta Pi will be held on **Tuesday, September 19th at 6:30 p.m. in DUR 1073**. Attendance at this meeting is necessary for those who wish to join. As address changes always seem to result in a few eligible students not being contacted in time, I am sending this letter to you as well as to your student. If you feel that your child's invitation might have been misguided or misplaced, please be sure that he/she knows about this important initial meeting.

All students that meet the criteria for membership into Tau Beta Pi and wish to join the honor society will be initiated at the end of the semester. Again, congratulations on Wyatt's achievements. If you have any questions about Tau Beta Pi, please feel free to contact myself, Emily Pine, at epine@ksu.edu.

Sincerely,

Emily Pine
Membership Coordinator
Kansas Gamma Chapter

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Andy Fund", is positioned above the typed name and title.

Andy Fund
Assistant Dean for Student Services
Carl R. Ice College of Engineering
Kansas State University

Figure 67: Example of a new letter

January 19th, 2024

Gail Keller
17053 Magnolia St
Overland Park, KS 66221

Dear Parent(s),

On behalf of the faculty of the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering, I extend sincere congratulations to you for Benjamin's accomplishments as a student at Kansas State University. I am pleased to inform you that Benjamin is scholastically eligible for possible membership in the Tau Beta Pi engineering honor society.

Tau Beta Pi is the second oldest Greek-letter honor society in America; the oldest is Phi Beta Kappa. Both societies are well known and respected throughout the United States. While the latter is restricted to students in the liberal arts, Tau Beta Pi recognizes outstanding engineering students of distinguished scholarship and exemplary character.

Since 1973, the Kansas Gamma Chapter of Tau Beta Pi has been one of the major student organizations in this college. Today, it is also a major chapter in the United States in both student and alumnus membership. The Kansas Gamma Chapter is much more than a tribute to outstanding students; it is a vehicle for such students to assume a role of leadership in the college and to be of distinctive service to the K-State and Manhattan communities. Tau Beta Pi members are active in a variety of other honor societies and student organizations as well. It is one of the most prestigious engineering societies into which Benjamin can be elected.

Enclosed with this letter is a schedule of orientation sessions being hosted by Kansas Gamma this semester. Those who wish to join must attend one of these sessions. I am mailing this letter to you, as frequent student address changes always seem to result in a few eligible students not being contacted in time. Please ensure that Benjamin knows about the importance of attending an orientation session.

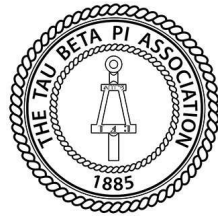
To support the operation of the local chapter and the national organization, Kansas Gamma must charge an initiation fee of \$95. I heartily endorse membership in Tau Beta Pi, and I hope Benjamin will give our invitation serious consideration; the returns on the initiation fee will be more than worthwhile. Part of the fee funds catering at the initiation banquet, which will be on April 16th. Many parents make it a point to attend the banquet and honor our outstanding students. As a member myself for many years, I look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,



Andy Fund
Assistant Dean for Student Services
Carl R. Ice College of Engineering
Kansas State University

Figure 68: Front of inserts for local chapter



The Kansas Gamma Chapter
Spring 2024 Orientation Sessions
DUR 1061 | Rathbone Hall

Monday, February 5th
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

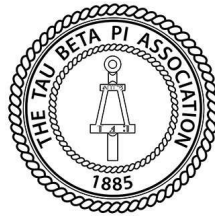
Tuesday, February 6th
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Wednesday, February 7th
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Tuesday, February 8th
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Friday, February 9th
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Saturday, February 10th
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM



The Kansas Gamma Chapter
Spring 2024 Orientation Sessions
DUR 1061 | Rathbone Hall

Monday, February 5th
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

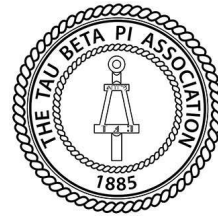
Tuesday, February 6th
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Wednesday, February 7th
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Tuesday, February 8th
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Friday, February 9th
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Saturday, February 10th
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
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Spring 2024 Orientation Sessions
DUR 1061 | Rathbone Hall

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3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Friday, February 9th
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Saturday, February 10th
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Figure 69: Back of inserts for local chapter

A Message from the Chapter President

Kansas Gamma is committed to serving our community and the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering. We engage in impactful service projects each year including three highway litter cleanup projects and the annual cleaning and whitewashing of 'KS Hill,' a massive historic landmark just across the river from Manhattan. We also host speakers from across the country for semesterly professional development seminars that are open to all students in the College.

We take pride in our Chapter's past achievements and look forward to a bright future. January 27th, 2024 will mark the 50th anniversary of Kansas Gamma at K-State, and our student leaders will continue transforming the College for many years to come. Most excitingly, we are now bringing back a lost tradition at K-State: The Engineering Formal.

We hope your child will consider joining us in making our college the best it can be. Here is a QR code linked to our Chapter's Instagram (@ksutbp) in case you would like to see us in action.



Sincerely,
Nick Divilbiss
85th President of The Kansas Gamma Chapter

If you were a K-State Tau Bate, then please consider joining the *Kansas State Tau Beta Pi Alumni Network* on LinkedIn. The private group was founded in 2023 to keep Kansas Gamma Tau Bates connected with each other and our Chapter. We have alumni across the nation, and it's all about who you know, so why not keep in touch with the highest achieving K-State engineers for life?

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27 Donald E. Rathbone Underclassman of the Year Award

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 01/16/24 - 04/23/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Recognition/Honor
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☒ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Applicants	3
Officers	9
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
1.0	1.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

In honor of the superb and transformational career of the late Dean Rathbone (IN-A '51), we have decided to rename our annual "Underclassman of the Year" award to the Donald E. Rathbone Underclassman of the Year Award. This award was established during Dean Rathbone's tenure, and we have reason to believe he may have started it himself since he created all the other ' _____ ' of the Year awards in the college. Dean Rathbone tirelessly strove for success and improvement and set a standard of excellence in all things he pursued. We honor the memory of Dean Rathbone by awarding the Donald E. Rathbone Underclassman of the Year Award to the exceptional underclassman who embodies these same values in their academics and character.

Rathbone was born in Havre, Montana in 1929. At an early age, he developed a passion for academics and learning. He graduated valedictorian from his small high school, and once again was first in his class when he graduated from Purdue in 1951. He joined the K-State faculty as Dean of Engineering in 1973. His main goal as dean was to develop the college of engineering into "one of the finest undergraduate engineering colleges in the country." Throughout his 22-year tenure as dean, he helped create the college's first scholarships, oversaw the addition of

multiple new buildings and centers for excellence, and saw the student population rise from 949 to 2500 undergrads and from 150 to 500 graduate students. Former KSU President Jon Wefald described Rathbone's "superb leadership of the college over 22 years" as the "primary reason" for the college's growth and recognition.

ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

The purpose of this award is to mark in a fitting manner those who have conferred honor upon Kansas State University by distinguished scholarship, exemplary character and dedication to the mission of Tau Beta Pi.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

As previously stated, our chapter has been granting this award for many years. Our current research has dated the award all the way back to 1987. The selection process looked just the same as it has for many years. A nomination form was distributed to all faculty members within the college. Underclassmen nominees were provided with an application form, and they submitted their application packages by a set deadline after which Awards Director Henry Bash prepared the applications and sent them to the executive board for review. The board then voted on the winner during their regular meeting on February 22nd. The final vote tallies are provided in the attached minutes. Bash then ordered a crystal award from JML Engraving using the standard proof template that we created last year. President Divilbiss created an award certificate template that closely matched the formatting of Tau Beta Pi membership certificates, and he had the award printed at the student union print shop using a blank Tau Beta Pi certificate from HQ. Bash announced the award using the slides Divilbiss created as Divilbiss presented the certificate to Karsyn Fuchs at the spring 2024 chapter banquet on April 16th. Bash then gave a five-minute speech about Tau Beta Pi, Dr. Rathbone, and Karsyn Fuchs at the college's official leadership awards banquet on April 23rd. Director of Public Relations Jordan Rowse shared Fuchs' award on Kansas Gamma's social media.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$72.6

v. **Cost Breakdown**

\$3.00 for a blank Tau Beta Pi award certificate; \$72.60 for the crystal award from JML Engraving.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

We received very few nominations for candidates. A fix for this issue may be to have the dean's office distribute the nomination form in the future. It was difficult to match the Tau Beta Pi awards fonts, but reverse image searches and trials and errors eventually led to a close replica.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

A MAJOR SUCCESS: Fuchs was honored by the recognition. Our social media followers and the general student body learned about Dr. Rathbone, Kansas Gamma history, and Fuchs during both of Bash's presentations. His speech at the college's banquet was especially well received with much applause. People were thankful to honor Dr. Rathbone since he passed away just one year ago, and he was highly beloved due to his deep commitment to the students and faculty of K-State Engineering.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 70: Learning about Dr. Rathbone

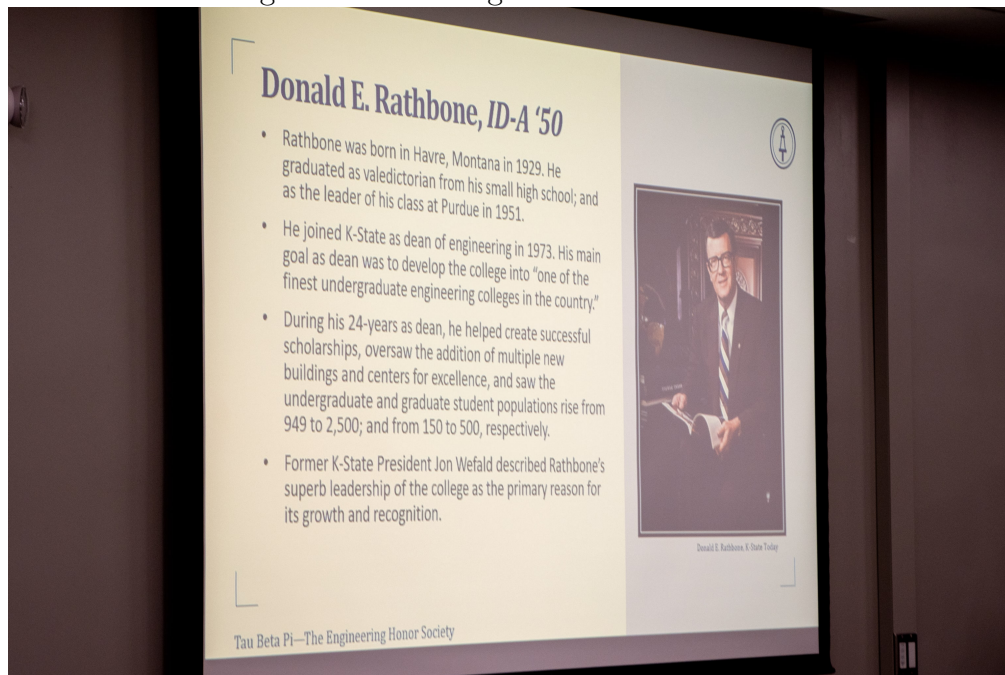


Figure 71: Divilbiss presenting Fuchs with her certificate



Figure 72: Bash presenting Fuchs with her crystal award



Figure 73: Minutes from the meeting when Fuchs won the vote



Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society – Kansas Gamma Chapter
Spring 2024, Week 6 Executive Meeting
4:00 pm, February 22nd, 2024
DUR 1061

AGENDA

- I. **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL @ 16:02**
- II. **AGENDA APPROVAL** – M. Velasquez moved, B. Rogers seconded, unanimously passed.
- III. **MINUTES APPROVAL** – B. Thimmesch moved, M. Velasquez seconded, unanimously passed.
- IV. **REPORTS (2 minutes per speaker)**
 - Awards: Poster Competition has been announced and posted. UCoY will be voted on. The *Most Outstanding Member* award will go to the member with the highest course grade in Canvas.
 - Events: P. Snider will be co-facilitating this semester's session of EF. We await word from Headquarters on who will be coming as our facilitator. AAH was successful; the equipment was returned and the stipend request was submitted along with photos. One idea we have received via survey for bent decoration was the displaying of famous women in TBP as part of Women's History Month.
 - Formal: The officers were informed that set up for the formal and labor during the formal will be required. Officers were made aware of a job list with (36) 30-minutes shifts in total.
 - History: N. Divilbiss has been reading through old correspondence from our Sigma Tau chapter.
 - Initiation: The room for our signature social has been reserved for Monday the 26th from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, and the WVU v KSU game will be streamed.
 - Monuments: \$750 to \$1200 for the steel required to raise our bent off the floor, so other options will be explored. WY-A has a new pyramid shaped base underneath their bent.
 - Open House: Billy has found a few options for cornhole boards and will discuss purchasing one with Treasurer Velasquez. He also has drawings for fidgeters for children to get during open house.
 - Pts. System: 30.8% is the average course grade.
 - Publicity: Throwback Thursdays scheduled for Instagram posting. New wave of followers (~10).
 - Recruiting: After 12 orientation sessions, we have 31 candidates and 9 eminent engineers.
 - Treasury: Monthly account statements have been disrupted by IT problems. See treasurer's report for an update on available funds.
- V. **DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR (5 minutes per speaker)**
- VI. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - District 9 conference: We have open spots still if anyone wants to go.
 - Carl R. Ice College of Engineering Underclassman of the Year Award:
 - Votes: Sophia Fenton = 3, Karsyn Fuchs = 5, Steven Warne = 1. Karsyn wins. The award will be presented at Steel Ring's Leadership Banquet. A notable part of Karsyn's submission was recognition of failure while president of a high school organization and realization of a growth opportunity. Sophia received votes based on her academic distinction, including high school valedictorian.
 - Discussion / action on charter refurbishment: Mark Stevenson the Paper Fixer won't be able to work on the charter until mid-March and we will aim to give him the charter before then. \$350 is needed to restore both charter certificates. B. Imig for the Chapter to pay Mark Stevenson \$350 for the restoration of its two charter certificates, and for President Divilbiss to transfer the certificates into Stevenson's custody before spring break, B. Rogers seconded. Motion passed unanimously with D. Rizzo abstaining.
 - Open House display request: Advisor Snider reports that the map of open house is in development. We will request that we are either by our Bent or the Sigma Tau Pyramid. Bent shaped fidget spinners are being considered as handouts for the children that attend. B. Imig and A. Wolf are responsible for the cornhole boards and other displays. B. Thimmesch will submit the application for a display to Steel Ring.
 - Officer activity logs & responsibilities spreadsheet: Officers reminded to fill these out for future reference.
- VII. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - Analysis / reorganization of Kansas Gamma leadership: The following topics were covered.
 - Thought experiment: Why does this chapter exist?
 - Objective behavioral analyses
 - Problems with communication, attendance, and involvement
 - Solution may be to enhance what is occurring naturally
 - Two-tiered system, inherent leadership / accountability, specialized appointees

28 The Visibility Project

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 01/16/24 - 05/23/25
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Outreach
 - ☒ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☒ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☐ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Members	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
5.0	1.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

Kansas Gamma used to have a glass display case in the atrium which was used to advertise events to chapter members and to generally promote the chapter. Around 2018, all display cases were taken away from college-level student orgs. Since then, brand recognition has fallen off significantly for Tau Beta Pi and many other organizations. Using the proper channel, our chapter approached the dean's office, during the spring semester, about getting a case back to improve our image. Our request was rejected. Unwilling to accept that as a final result, two of our officers successfully ran for student senate, where they planned to pursue the issue at the university level. It was at that point when our officers began speaking with other orgs to see what their take on the issue was. We found that other orgs share the same problems brought on by our shared invisibility. Brand recognition is virtually non-existent for many college-level orgs, which causes recruitment efforts to suffer greatly. Poor recruitment limits the impact that our student orgs can have on the personal and professional development of K-State engineering students. It is clear that we should pursue a solution that increases visibility for all college-level orgs, so we decided to pursue funding from the university to purchase display cases for all orgs in the college. We then spoke with the university president who expressed that he supported our idea and would personally intervene to see that the issue was solved. Not wanting to subordinate, we held off on asking him to intervene. Finally, we learned from our advisor, the

reason why the cases were taken away: Stagnation. Orgs hadn't been updating their displays, which created a poor image for potential students touring the college. After a few weeks in the student senate, it was also apparent that SGA funding would be highly political and difficult to secure. Therefore, a new solution was imagined which is discussed in the last section of this report.

ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

The purpose of this project is to increase the visibility of college-level orgs within our college so that they can optimally provide personal and professional development opportunities to K-State students. We intend to increase the general feeling of belonging and inclusion within the college and to bolster recruitment into K-State engineering and every student org involved in the project. The project will show that our chapter exists to continuously improve the college and community for all people. Finally, the project will increase our brand awareness by making our monument's area into the main focal point of the engineering atrium,

iii. **Organization and Administration**

The project has been jointly organized and administered by President Nick Divilbiss and Events Director Dalton Rizzo with input from the executive board.

iv. **In Conjunction With**

TBD (multiple)

v. **Total Cost**

\$3.14

vi. **Cost Breakdown**

TBD. Still need to design and construct the frame. That will be the biggest cost. Our new Director of Public Relations will be in charge of this project moving forward.

vii. **Special Problems Encountered**

The administration of our college has not been forthcoming with their concerns and have been more inclined to deny proposals with no discussion. They have not offered any alternative solutions, and they generally fail to recognize the importance of strong student orgs. The K-State Student Senate is highly political even when considering issues that are relatively straightforward or trivial.

viii. **Overall Evaluation**

The project is still in progress, and we plan to implement a new solution starting in August 2024. Our Bent monument sits in an optimal spot in the atrium with lots of space around it that we are certain the college does not have plans for. We have had lots of success this year with our extravagant bent decorations, so the area has become a focal point in the atrium. This provides us with the perfect opportunity to become the solution to invisibility for all student orgs by inviting them to showcase their orgs in our space. Our plan is to build a Tau Beta Pi branded bifold wooden frame in which we can mount standard-size posterboards. We will accept posterboard displays from two college-level org each month and showcase them next to our Bent. The college supports the idea to have a rotating display, as it will increase student org visibility without being stagnant. The solution will bring more attention to our monument and the branded display will show the students that The Chapter intends to serve the entire college and not just our members. Other orgs such as NSBE, ESC, and SWE have expressed great interest in furnishing posterboard displays for the project, so we expect it to be a way for us to provide value to and build relationships with the major orgs in our college. We will call

it "The Visibility Project" and we expect it to help transform Tau Beta Pi's image within the college of engineering at K-State.

29 Comprehensive Guide for Hosting EF Sessions

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 01/17/24 - 01/23/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Chapter Development
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☐ Chapter/Social
 - ☒ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	3
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
3.0	1.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

Our chapter has discussed the creation of event guides for our recurring events that are considered staples to Kansas Gamma's function and must continue through changes to the officer board. One such event is our semesterly hosting of Engineering Futures. Events Director Rizzo knew that he would not be in town for the spring 2024 session date that had to be chosen, due to a robotics competition. In the past, Events Coordinator Cory Johnson had expressed interest in leading the organization of an event, so the spring Futures session provided him with this opportunity. Since Rizzo decided to allow Johnson to lead the organization of the event, the creation of the guide for Engineering Futures became immediately necessary. This would act as a guide for Johnson, for he was new to the event and its complexities. Both Rizzo and President Divilbiss are the only ones in the chapter with strong experience hosting Futures sessions, so they began drafting the guide. After a week's worth of edits and reviews, they settled on the strong draft to be sent to Johnson, who reviewed it for confusing language and/or questionable directives. After a final edit considering Johnson's comments, the draft was finalized as the guide for future officers to use.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

This short project deals directly with chapter development, as we strengthen our internal structure. With the guide, future iterations of our semesterly Futures sessions will be organized

effectively, so that the event will persist as a renowned staple of our chapter's impact on campus. As the event maintains a strong presence at K-State, so does the Tau Beta Pi image as it is known to engineering students.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

The guide was started as a document on our Microsoft Teams by Director Rizzo, who wrote an outline of what he did for the EF session the previous semester when he organized it. The document is arranged chronologically, as sections are titled by the timeframe during which certain objectives must be met. After a rough outline of steps to take was written, Director Rizzo and President Divilbiss began filling in details and specific directions. The guide is prefaced by a small description of the event, and it makes mention of a strong supporter of the event, Dr. Kevin Wanklyn. The fact that he is a Kansas Gamma alumnus, and he consistently incentivizes attendance with extra credit is detailed in the preface. Links to EF pages hosted by TBP are included throughout the document, along with references and file-paths to other material within our Teams, including links to K-State room reservation pages. The document sections took on a checklist-styled bulleted list, so those who organized the event can print the guide and check off objectives as they proceed. There are references to how our hosting of the session interacts with the College of Engineering, the Campus Sanitarian, our Chapter's publicity team, and TBP faculty members. The tone of the document is not suggestive, but rather it deems the objective as required, so that future organizers don't procrastinate steps or carelessly decide to leave out steps. If a strong and dedicated officer leads the organizing of the event, then the program will remain effective and prestigious due to the detailed guide and the resources referenced within.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

The only requirement was the time commitment from the officers involved. Which proved to be enough, since the officers finalized a descriptive and helpful guide.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

There were no special problems encountered during the authoring of the EF guide.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

SUCCESS: The guide proved to be effective. Once Director Rizzo turned over the organizing of the semester's EF session to Coordinator Johnson, Director Rizzo received minimal questions from Coordinator Johnson as he progressed. Director Rizzo received timely updates about the event over email that showed Coordinator Johnson was on-track. The actual EF session was successful itself, so that is more evidence as to the effectiveness of the guide. The guide will be reviewed over the coming summer for edits and updates to current statuses with and relations to other parties typically involved in our hosting of EF sessions.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 74: Poster created by Director McLeod at Coordinator Johnson's request.



The poster features a background with large, overlapping organic shapes in shades of orange and light beige. In the top left corner, there is a circular logo containing a stylized figure of a person with arms raised, next to the text "TAU BETA PI KANSAS GAMMA". The main title "Engineering Futures" is centered, with "Engineering" in a large, bold, dark blue font and "Futures" in a large, bold, orange font. Below the title, the date and time "April 13 - 10am-2pm" are written in a smaller, bold, dark blue font. On the left side, under the heading "Event Details", there is a bulleted list of four items. On the right side, there is a circular orange area containing a QR code and the text "Register by April 10" above it.

**TAU BETA PI
KANSAS GAMMA**

Enjoy a free McAlister's lunch at
**Engineering
Futures**
April 13 - 10am-2pm

Event Details

- Presenter: J.P. Blackford
- Topic: Communication & Teamwork
- Location: SAS room in Engineering building
- Free McAlister's lunch with registration

**Register by
April 10**



Figure 75: Guide Page 1

Guide to Hosting Successful Engineering Futures Sessions

Engineering Futures sessions are professional development events open to the whole College of Engineering student body. Kansas Gamma hosts one Futures session per semester. Dr. Kevin Wanklyn (MNE) incentivizes attendance by offering his current Thermodynamics class their full semester's allocation of extra credit just for attending a Futures session. Dr. Wanklyn was initiated by Kansas Gamma as an undergraduate student during the 1998 national convention in Manhattan, so he has long been a strong supporter of the Chapter. Please be appreciative of his contributions to the success of the Chapter's Engineering Futures sessions. More information can be found on the Tau Beta Pi website at this link, <https://sites.google.com/tbp.org/efprogram/home?pli=1>.

The following task list must be completed to host successful Futures sessions. Most are in order and should be completed sequentially but can be worked on at the same time and accomplished slightly out of order. Use your honor student brain to call it.

Beginning of the Semester

- ❑ Place request to nationals through Google form in the link:
 - Work with President and Vice-President to select a proper date for the session. Pay attention to sports schedules, Open House, career fairs, etc.
 - (<https://sites.google.com/tbp.org/efprogram/home/request-a-session>).
 - TBP Director of Member and Chapter Services will contact you. He oversees finding the facilitator and planning their trip to campus. He will connect you with the chosen facilitator.
 - **This must be done at least six weeks before the date chosen for the EF event.** The request will ask for a preferred date, a backup date, and a start time.
 - In the request, you must select the modules that the chapter prefers. In the past, we've used a survey to gauge what general members want, but this isn't necessary.
- ❑ Coordinate accommodations with facilitator:
 - Ask the facilitator what kind of room they want, if they have a preferred seating arrangement, and what technology they need.
 - The facilitator may also be planning an activity, so ask if we need to provide any materials (be frugal).
 - Discuss which modules the facilitator can do. Survey general members to find which they prefer (talk with one of the officers who is familiar with creating our Canvas surveys). Since most facilitators must travel long distances for these events, they will want to present two or three modules.
 - They may ask about places to stay in town, so research would be needed here. You will also have to plan for picking up from and dropping off the facilitator at the airport.
 - Be explicit and clarify the exact accommodation in writing (emails).
- ❑ Schedule Room:
 - Depending on what is discussed with the facilitator, you'll have to decide which room is best.
 - Refer to the ---LINKS TO EXTERNAL FORMS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION--- document for forms to request rooms in the College of Engineering and other campus buildings such as the Student Union, in which rooms are also available, some are free, and you'll have to create an account, if you haven't already, to reserve rooms there.

Figure 76: Guide Page 2

- Room 1112, Burns & McDonnell Collaborative Learning Laboratory (SAS) has been successfully used in the past, but ask for permission from the SAS Director (as of 1/22/2024 it's Shana Bender) before you request the room through a form.
- Be sure your chosen room has proper accommodation & technology resources for the facilitator.
- Schedule the room not too early in the morning or late in the day. Saturday morning works well.

3-4 Weeks Before Session

☐ Create & Publish Registration Form:

- Create a registration form using the Microsoft 365 Forms web app.
- Create a question for dietary restrictions and preferred catered meal. I.e.; we've done "Lunch Boxes" from McAllister's Deli in the past, so you'd ask what kind of sandwich they want.
- Create questions to collect their name and department/major. Also ask if they are a Tau Beta Pi member and if they are attending to earn extra credit in Thermodynamics 1 (for Dr. Wanklyn's extra credit).
- Give Dr. Wanklyn a link to this form so he can distribute it to his class and post it on Canvas.
- Post a link to this form on the Tau Beta Pi Canvas course via an announcement.
- Generate a QR-Code for the form, because that will go on the flyer/poster.
- From TBP Request Form, "Chapters are charged \$50 at the time a facilitator is assigned to a session; sessions must have a minimum of 15 participants, including at least 10 PRE-REGISTERED online at least 2 weeks in advance". Aim to beat those numbers then send the Director of Member and Chapter Services a registration list. Microsoft Forms has a way to produce a spreadsheet of those who registered.
- EXPORT FORM TO EXCEL FILE AND UPLOAD TO TEAMS: Documents > General > RECORDS > Events & Programs > Engineering Futures. You'll need to create a new subfolder for each semester's session. Pay attention and follow file naming conventions.

☐ Create Flyer/Poster & Publicize Event:

- Politely ask the Director of Public Relations to create the promotional material. Be sure to share the QR-Code or link for the registration form and all pertinent information.
- Submit a briefing for the Engineering Weekly Newsletter or ask the Director of Public Relations to do such. You need to provide the description though. You're the one who knows about the event.
- Refer to ---LINKS TO EXTERNAL FORMS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION--- for submission destinations.
- Physically posting the flyers in allowed places could boost attendance, check with department offices.
- Register the event on the student organization system. (as of 1/22/2024 it's OrgCental)
- Have the flyer emailed to all engineering students via the listserv (as of 1/22/2024 our Chief Advisor Andy Fund can do this).
- There must be a registration deadline for catering purposes. Be sure to set up at least a week of time for registration, but two or three weeks would be better.

Figure 77: Guide Page 3

1 Week Before Session

- ❑ Order Catering:
 - Consult with the Chief Advisor to see if the College will cover food expenses. (as of 1/23/2024, they've paid for food at the last two sessions).
 - Choose food that is easy to clean up. McAllister's Deli "Lunch Boxes" is a good example. Be mindful of the chapter's budget if the College isn't paying. Meals are free for attendees, so include this fact in promotions.
 - A sanitation plan must be submitted to the Campus Sanitarian of The Department of Environmental Health & Safety in Dykstra Hall. It must include a copy of the caterer's menu. You will have to explain your plan to serve the food, which will include; The name of the event, the date and time, the location, who is allowed to register, how will people register, what you will be ordering off the menu, how you plan to serve the food, and how you plan to clean-up afterwards.
 - Don't order the catering until after the deadline for registration.
 - Plan to have the catered food on-site by the end of the professional development portion of the event. Perishable food cannot sit unrefrigerated for more than two hours.
 - If the Chapter pays for food, then communicate with the Treasurer who will see that the invoice is paid. If the College pays for food, then send a COPY of the attendance sheet to the College's Assistant Budget Fiscal Officer (Chassy Nichols as of 1/23/2024).
- ❑ Gather Material:
 - Collect any materials the facilitator needs. Bring a sign-in/attendance sheet for Tau Beta Pi members and have a separate attendance sheet for those that are there for extra credit.

Figure 78: Guide Page 4

Day of the Session

- ❑ Host Event:
 - Dress in business casual at least. You are there to lead the event as a representative of TBP.
 - Arrive early, at least thirty minutes before the event begins, to unlock the room, set up the entrance with attendance sheets, and set up accommodation for the facilitator.
 - You may need to drive or arrange a ride for the facilitator to get around.
 - ATTENDANCE MUST BE TAKEN AT THE EVENT.
 - Usually, the professional development part of the event can take from two to three hours.
 - You must receive the catering delivery if you chose a delivery option, otherwise plan for someone to retrieve the catering order from the provider.
 - Either you or TBP President should begin the event with a speech about who we are as Tau Beta Pi, what Engineering Futures is, and why we do E.F., then introduce the facilitator. Ask the facilitator if he has any preference on title or how they are referred to.
 - Don't forget to **take pictures**. A group picture will be useful in the future. We've used the "green wall" in the past. There are also walls with KSU and CoE lettering that would work.
- ❑ Post-Event:
 - You or another officer will probably need to take the facilitator to the airport.
 - Ask the Treasurer to check with the Assistant Budget Fiscal Officer in the Dean's Office (currently Chassy Nichols as of 1/23/2024) to make sure payments for catering and the room reservation were successful.
 - Complete a **physical** project report for our records and nationals. A template can be found on Microsoft Teams Documents>General>BLANK FORMS & MISC TEMPLATES, if they are not in our supply closet. Upload it onto their reporting system. A link for this can be found on --- *LINKS TO EXTERNAL FORMS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION*---. Passwords are on the passwords tab.
 - If there are less than 15 attendees, then nationals will charge the chapter a session scheduling fee, so be on the watch for that and make the Treasurer aware.
 - Upload pictures to a new subfolder (follow naming conventions!!!) Documents > General > RECORDS > Photos & Videos > *figure it out from here...*
 - Tell the Director of Public Relations where you've uploaded the pictures to, and that post-event posts need to be made about the successful event. (Group photos are needed here).

30 Spring 2024 University Activities Fair

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 01/18/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Outreach
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☐ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
3.0	2.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

Kansas Gamma tabled at the Kansas State University Activities Carnival for the second time ever in January 2024. The carnival is an opportunity for students to explore organizations from every college all at once. The main audience is current students; typically, underclassmen who are still looking for more ways to get involved. Kansas Gamma's display consisted of our branded tablecloth, our new velcro display board with pictures, posters and honor cords, Engineering Formal flyers, business cards, brochures, and a few extra certificates and unclaimed Bent pendants.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

The purpose was to raise general awareness of Tau Beta Pi and its function in the college as a means of honoring high achieving students and also Kansas Gamma's service projects for the community.

iii. Organization and Administration

Media Director Grace McLeod took charge of populating the velcro trifold display board for the event. She printed pictures at Walgreens and made a school color themed collage. McLeod also designed the Engineering Formal flyers which President Divilbiss picked up from the print shop just before the event. Divilbiss and McLeod had a much easier time explaining Tau Beta Pi to attendees at this fair versus the fall fair due to the improved display. Divilbiss walked around the Student Union to distribute the flyers to other organizations as well.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$300.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

\$125 for the display board; \$100 for the flyers; \$65 for the business cards; \$10 for photo printing and craft supplies. McLeod and Divilbiss were the only officers assigned to the project. They ordered the needed materials, created the display and manned the event.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

McLeod and Divilbiss followed through on their goal from the fall fair and created a nice display, but attendance at the spring fair was less than 50% of what they saw at the fall fair. Fall 2024 will be the true test of how well Kansas Gamma can do at the University's event.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

The event was successful in multiple ways. Firstly, it allowed McLeod and Divilbiss to further refine the chapter's display. Secondly, over 40 flyers were distributed throughout the union to other engineering students and related student orgs, so while the table itself didn't see a ton of visitors, Kansas Gamma still got the word out about its major plan for the spring semester. As mentioned, we look forward to how successful this event will be with a good display during peak attendance in fall 2024.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 79: Divilbiss and McLeod at the KS Gamma display



31 Raising Bentzy

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 01/18/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
5.0	5.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

Kansas Gamma's Bent monument (Bentzy) has lived in many locations since she was dedicated in 1980. In recent years, she has been located behind a bench under a staircase. That location did not serve as a symbol of pride and strength. The Bent has since been shoved out from underneath the staircase and been made a focal point of the atrium, and officers have developed a plan to raise the monument onto a new pedestal so that she will be too tall to be slid under the staircase again.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

By putting Bentzy on a literal pedestal, we will put the chapter on a figurative pedestal as a symbol of K-State's pride in its Tau Beta Pi chapter.

iii. Organization and Administration

President Divilbiss has pushed this project as an important symbolic means of increasing the pride and visibility of our chapter. Divilbiss and Events Director Rizzo have worked with the relevant parties and our chief advisor to obtain approval from the chapter and the college. Divilbiss will lead the design development over summer 2024. The Kansas Gamma Executive Board voted to go forth with the project on January 18, 2024.

iv. **In Conjunction With**
K-State College of Engineering

v. **Total Cost**
\$1.0

vi. **Cost Breakdown**

We are unsure of the cost since a design has not yet been finalized. It will take multiple people to install the new base once it is finished.

vii. **Special Problems Encountered**

Initially, a solid wooden base design was proposed which would have been very easy to build, but the college's building manager rejected that design and requested that a steel base be welded out of W-shaped sections and then be powder coated black. His request increased the complexity and cost of the base design, which has increased the timeline of the project.

viii. **Overall Evaluation**

The project is going very well so far in its conceptual design phase since we have secured Dean O'Keefe's approval and since Eric Figge, the engineering facilities manager, has outlined exactly how he wants the base to be constructed. Now, it's just a matter of finding a cost-effective way of sourcing materials and labor. The logistics of this project will be figured out during summer 2024. Figge is investigating methods of lifting the Bent onto its new base and will likely use a forklift to do so.

3. Additional Attachments

Figure 80: Diagram of current condition



Figure 81: Diagram of desired condition

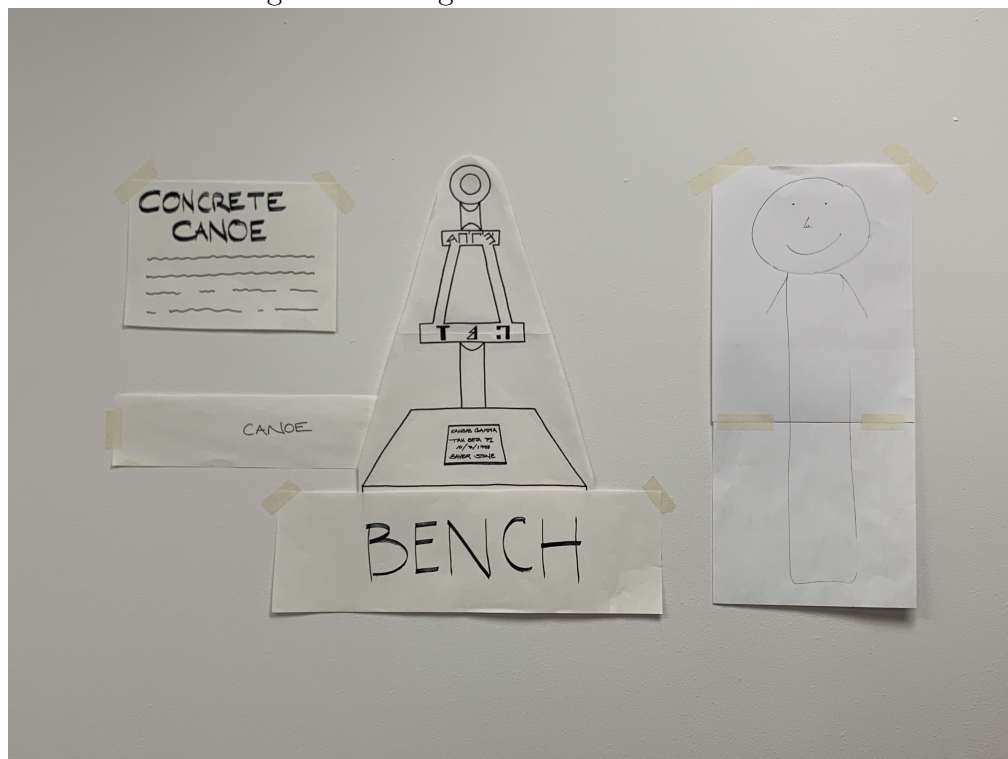
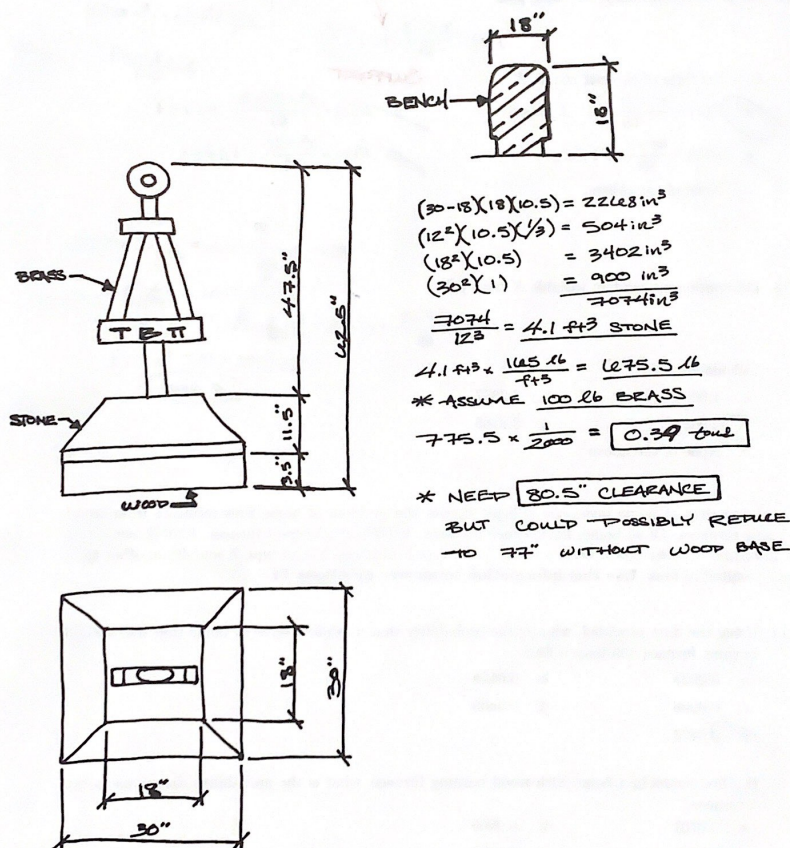


Figure 82: Calculations

KANSAS GAMMA BENT RELOCATION PROJECT
SUMMER 2023 - BY PRESIDENT NICK DIVILISS



32 Signature Book Revamp

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 01/23/24 - 01/30/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Chapter Development
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	1
Electees	13

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
1.0	6.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

As part of the candidacy process, we have eligibles complete signature books containing electee exams and a select few required signatures. Our existing signature book template was poorly put together and needed many revisions to become a professional document. Additionally, we introduced a new student profile form into the template as a means of collecting comprehensive contact information from every new member. We also added the TBP eligibility code to the template. Finally, we used to host in-person interviews as part of the character evaluation process, but those went away in spring 2024, and we have added a new section into the signature books for character evaluation questions.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

This project was part of the overhaul of Kansas Gamma's candidacy process during spring 2024. Over time, the candidacy process had become impersonal, unprofessional, and lackadaisical. In fall 2023, the ball was dropped so hard that we only recruited 6 new student members, and half of them should've been rejected due to the poor quality and/or incompleteness of their signature books and electee exams. President Nick Divilbiss did not provide close enough oversight and discovered these issues too late into the process.

Motivated to never fail so badly again, the chapter was determined to reinvent its candidacy process in spring 2024 such that candidates would only be elected if they adhered to the highest of standards and if they qualified their interest by demonstrating proper knowledge of the history and purpose of the Tau Beta Pi Association, the Kansas Gamma Chapter, and the Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Tau.

The purpose of this project was to ensure that only the finest and most dedicated candidates are initiated into Tau Beta Pi, and that they understand how meaningful their membership is. In ensuring these things, Kansas Gamma intends for its members to become devoted lifetime supporters of the Association and its objectives.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

President Divilbiss made the alterations to the signature book template with input and advice from the other officers and our chief advisor. Divilbiss collected and reviewed the books during the spring 2024 semester.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$1.5

v. **Cost Breakdown**

There is free printing available at K-State, so the only expense was having the three new signature book templates Unibound at the student union print shop.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

No major issues were encountered during the project. We gave candidates lists of general members, faculty members, and officers to avoid unnecessary difficulties which some of the present officers had to deal with as candidates.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

A MAJOR SUCCESS: The new signature book template gives precise instructions on exactly how the book shall be completed. The books are graded on a pass-fail basis for completion and compliance with our prescriptive standards. New members expressed how the signature books came out very nicely, and how they will be proud to save the books as future keepsakes to look back and reflect upon. We feel that nixing the in-person character evaluations was the proper choice, as we used to shuffle 30+ people through a few face-to-face interview stations as quickly as possible to answer three basic questions for which the candidates' answers were hardly recorded. The old process was impersonal, and frankly made the candidates feel more like corralled livestock than valued human beings. Now we give the candidates many weeks to complete their evaluations (by hand) within the signature books. This allows them to ponder their responses and for us to ask deeper questions (attached). Overall, the new signature books led to the initiation of thirteen of the finest candidates this chapter has seen in years. Oh, and we also put the 1926 Eligibility Code of Tau Beta Pi in the template to ensure that each candidate reads it since (a) it is important, and (b) we are constitutionally obligated to do so. Another benefit of this project was when we used the data from the candidates' books to jovially introduce them to the rest of the chapter during our spring chapter banquet. We gave statistics on the distribution of favorite colors, and we introduced each new member by reading their favorite state and three things they'd bring to an island.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 83: The most professional signature books this chapter has ever seen

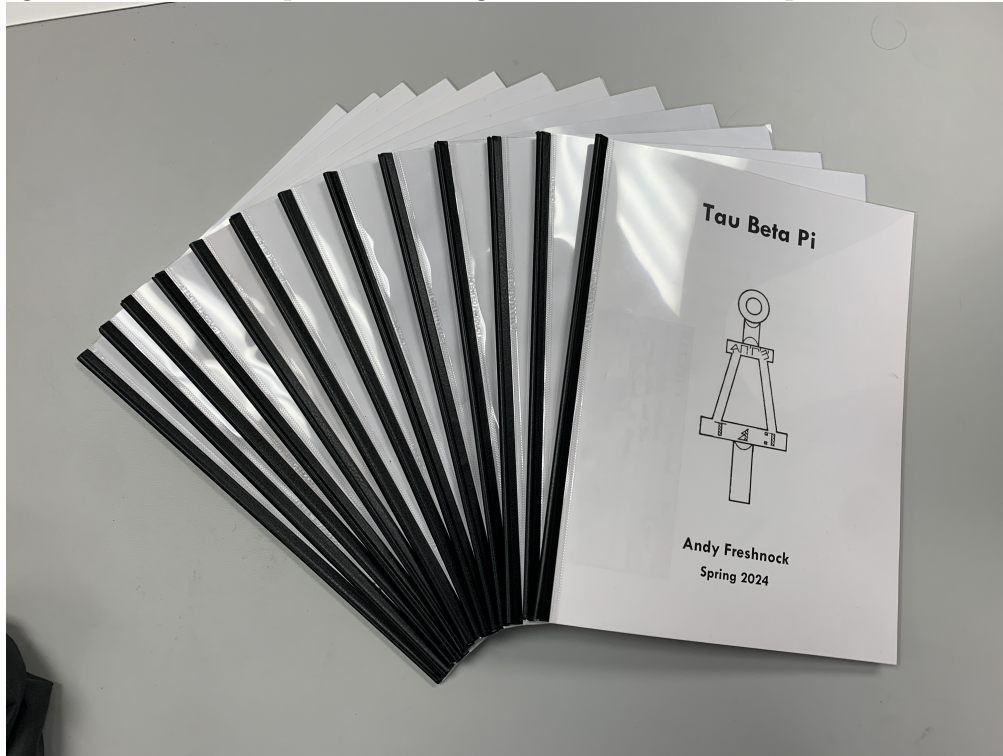


Figure 84: Signature book slide from the new orientation slideshow

Example Signature Book



- Yours must match the formatting of the provided examples!
- Yours must be fully completed on time.
- You have weeks to do this, so no exceptions.
- **Contact us asap about any issues. We want you all to succeed.**

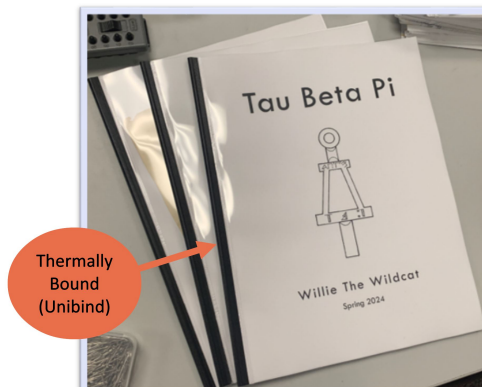


Figure 85: Instructions, page 1 of 2

**TAU BETA PI – KANSAS GAMMA CHAPTER
SIGNATURE BOOK INSTRUCTIONS**

- A. Create a professional 8.5" x 11" book to collect signatures of faculty and current Tau Beta Pi members. Collecting signatures allows you to meet Tau Bates and learn more about their experiences in the honor society. Please let the signees learn a little about you. You must take this signature book seriously if you want to join the ranks of Tau Beta Pi via the Kansas Gamma Chapter. **Signature books are graded on a pass-fail basis for both completeness and compliance with the requirements described herein.**
- B. Years ago, one of Kansas Gamma's former advisors, Dr. Julia Keen, established the tradition of candidates bringing small individually wrapped candies in exchange for each person's signature. This is important, and they will be expecting it.
- C. Your signature book **shall be thermally bound with a hard steel spine and a clear plastic outer cover**, which can be done at the K-State Student Union print shop for a minimal expense (less than \$5). The name for this type of binding is 'UniBind'. They should be familiar with that term. Save yourself some hassle and have the book bound before you begin to fill it out. Just inside the clear front cover, there shall be a white sheet of paper (inner cover) containing the following information **TYPED** in the order listed below:
 - a. "Tau Beta Pi"
 - b. The Bent (Tau Beta Pi logo).
 - c. Your name
 - d. Your initiation semester
- D. The cover page shall be immediately followed by one blank page.
- E. The third page needs to include the following information **TYPED** in the order listed below:
 - a. "Tau Beta Pi"
 - b. "Kansas Gamma Chapter"
 - c. "Kansas State University"
 - d. Your name
 - e. Your major
 - f. "Initiation" followed by your initiation semester (Ex. "Initiation – Spring 2023")
 - g. "Graduation" followed by your expected graduation date (Ex. "Graduation – Fall 2026")
- F. The next few pages will be the Profile Form and Electee Exam, in that order. Complete the Profile Form and Electee Exam **BY HAND**. You may find the answers by talking to other Tau Bates (especially officers), the internet (the national website: tbp.org), or by any other means. This exam is not difficult, but some of the answers may not be immediately obvious, and procrastination is not your friend here. Recall that you are being invited to join the premier engineering honor society representing the highest caliber of engineering students. Those at the top of the engineering profession make neat, accurate, and timely submissions. A lack of effort shown during the electee exam suggests a lack of interest in the Association, which will lead to disqualification during the grading of signature books.
- G. The next section begins with the 1926 Tau Beta Pi Eligibility Code, which **YOU MUST READ**. It is followed by the character evaluation, which must be completed **BY HAND**. If any of the questions do not apply to you, then you must make a note of that on the form.
- H. The next section contains the signature lists in their provided order. You will need to visit Tau Beta Pi faculty members' offices to obtain their **name, signature, and school where they were initiated** (i.e. Kansas Gamma, Missouri Alpha, etc.). **Clearly print the faculty member's name and school yourself** and have the individual sign it. When getting the TBP faculty members' signatures, please pay attention to office hours and **do not send mass emails**.

Figure 86: Instructions, page 2 of 2

- I. Collect the following signatures:
- All faculty advisors' signatures. (You will be looked on extra favorably if you manage to obtain all advisors' signatures)
 - 5 faculty member signatures along with one piece of advice they would give to undergraduate students or one thing they are glad they did during their time in college. You shall notify the Chapter president if you find any Tau Bates not included on the provided list.
 - 5 current member signatures along with one piece of advice they would give to underclassmen or one thing they are glad they did during their time in college.
- J. The last page of the book should be a blank page.

Summarized Table of Contents

1.	Clear plastic cover sheet	
2.	Inner cover sheet with prescribed information	(TYPED)
3.	Blank sheet	
4.	Sheet with prescribed information	(TYPED)
5.	Profile form	(COMPLETED BY HAND)
6.	Electee exam	(COMPLETED BY HAND)
7.	1926 Tau Beta Pi Eligibility Code	
8.	Character evaluation	(COMPLETED BY HAND)
9.	Advisor signatures	(COMPLETED BY HAND)
10.	Faculty & student member signatures	(COMPLETED BY HAND)
11.	Advice from faculty members	(COMPLETED BY HAND)
12.	Advice from student members	(COMPLETED BY HAND)
13.	Blank Sheet	
14.	Clear plastic cover sheet	

Important Notes

- You shall not include the signature book instructions in your finished book.
- All sheets shall be of white paper measuring 8.5" x 11".
- The pages in your book shall be single sided.
- The font used for the typed portions of your signature book shall be "Tw Cen MT" as that is the font used throughout the form templates and electee exam. **You will be disqualified if you submit a signature book with another font.**
- Check and double check** that you have satisfied all requirements herein **before** submitting your signature book. It will be a painful experience if you go through the trouble of collecting signatures just to be disqualified for missing a blank sheet or for using an improper font.
- These requirements may seem trivial to you, but Tau Beta Pi did not become the prestigious organization it is today by accepting every applicant. To join, you must prove that you are one of the best by fulfilling all candidate requirements, be they big or small. The Kansas Gamma Chapter is committed to preserving the integrity of Tau Beta Pi by initiating only the finest candidates.
- You should reach out to an officer with any concerns or questions you have about your signature book or about the initiation process in general. Officers can be a great resource while completing your exam.

Figure 87: Electee exam, eligibility code, and character evaluation

**TAU BETA PI – KANSAS GAMMA CHAPTER
ELECTEE EXAM**

1. List the current officers of Kansas Gamma and their majors.
2. When and where was Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society founded?
3. On what date was the Kansas Gamma Chapter chartered at K-State?
4. Where is the national headquarters of Tau Beta Pi currently located?
5. Before merging with Tau Beta Pi, high achieving K-State engineering students were often members of a different engineering honor society. What was the name of that organization (including the local chapter's name) and why did the two organizations merge?
6. What is the symbol of the organization from the last question? (hint: look on the South side of Durland Hall).
7. What is the symbol of Tau Beta Pi? Explain its significance. (hint: think structural engineering)
8. What are the ideals of Tau Beta Pi as stated in the preamble of our constitution?
9. What are the national requirements to be considered for Tau Beta Pi membership as an undergraduate?
10. Name 5 distinguished Tau Bates and what distinguishes them (at least 1 from KSU).
11. How many Tau Beta Pi districts are there? Which district does Kansas Gamma belong to?
12. Name 3 other schools in our district. Provide their chapter code followed by the name of their institution. (Ex: KS Gamma at Kansas State University)
13. The letters of KS Hill have long been maintained by Tau Beta Pi. When were each of them constructed and when did Tau Beta Pi take over care of the hill?

**TAU BETA PI – KANSAS GAMMA CHAPTER
ELIGIBILITY CODE OF TAU BETA PI**

In order that there may be a more uniform basis.....that we believe lies one of the most sensitive tests for determining candidates' rights to bear the name and wear the Bent of Tau Beta Pi.

**TAU BETA PI – KANSAS GAMMA CHAPTER
CHARACTER EVALUATION**

1. Have you read the attached Tau Beta Pi eligibility code?
2. Tau Beta Pi aims to promote integrity and excellence in engineering. What do these terms mean to you?
3. Describe an accomplishment that you are most proud of.
4. What are you hoping to get out of being a member of Tau Beta Pi?
5. Name two of your core values that are necessary for exemplary character. Can you give us a concrete example of a time that you have displayed these?
6. Describe the funniest thing that happened to you recently.
7. Why did you choose to study your specific field of engineering?
8. How do you hope to contribute and engage with the Kansas Gamma Chapter?
9. If you were on an island and could only bring 3 things with you, describe what you would bring and why.
10. What are your extracurricular activities and hobbies?
11. If you were to plan or chair a Tau Beta Pi event or program, what would it be and why?
12. Give an example of a time that you failed to meet your own or someone else's expectations, and how did you respond?
13. What are your strongest and weakest traits?

33 Throwback Thursdays & Flashback Fridays

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 01/27/24 - 05/02/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Members	3
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
5.0	2.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

Every Thursday (or Friday if it slipped our minds) of the spring 2024 semester, Kansas Gamma made a throwback post across its social media accounts. We began on January 27th by posting pictures of our installation on the day of our chapter's 50th anniversary. The first post was made exactly 50-years to the hour from our installation ceremony. We followed the first post with pictures of our Bent monument being dedicated in 1980. Kansas Gamma hosted the 1992 District 9 conference, of which we shared some cool retro photos on our third post. Then, of course we had to post about our service projects from the 90s. Who could forget Kansas Gamma painting the Riley County and Ogden rural fire stations! We experienced the joy of faulty film when it was time to share the pictures of our 1991 signature social where half of each image is either red or green. We spun back 20 years to 2002 and shared some memories of whitewashing KS Hill after some hoodlums threw colored paint all over our precious monument. Back to the beginning is how far we went for the next post when we showed everyone the picture of our charter crew, President Schlup and Founding Advisor Tillman, at the 1973 Convention in Gainesville where our charter was successfully granted. Of course, we also have more recent memories, so for the following post we shared a picture of Kansas Gamma's food drive back in 2020 when we set the engineering departments against each other in a fierce battle to see who could donate the heaviest amount of food. Finally, we wrapped up the semester by taking our followers on a stroll through rainy NYC with photos from the 2009 National Convention.

ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

The purpose was to improve Tau Beta Pi's image at K-State by showing that we have a long legacy of (a) active membership, and (b) impactful service. Part of Kansas Gamma's long-term promotional strategy is to build its legacy brand such that students will strive for excellence so they may secure their right to take part in our chapter's story.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

Media Director Grace McLeod created the attached posting schedule and for the most part, she is the one who made the posts. President Nick Divilbiss helped her sort through the photos as he has spent much time and effort learning about the chapter's history this year. Historian Nathan Diehl spent many hours digitizing all the photos in our chapter's archives which enabled the project to be completed easily.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

No cost was incurred during this project. Three officers played key roles in its success as previously mentioned.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

Sometimes we all got busy with life and forgot to post on Thursday. That's how Flashback Fridays came to be. Ironically, the Friday posts helped make the project more interesting and kept our followers on their toes each time we changed up the posting schedule.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

A MAJOR SUCCESS: This project allowed us to post new and meaningful content at least once per week while we were still building a foundation of more frequent events with increasing participation. Doing so helped us change K-State's perception of Tau Beta Pi from a one and done type of honor society to one where members are proud to be a part of our legacy of service to the community and the college. We have received many compliments from members and non-members alike about how much they've enjoyed the throwback posts, and the project is impactful and broadly relevant because our history is K-State's history, and people at K-State care about K-State's history. We are excited to see where this project goes over the coming semesters as Kansas Gamma learns more and more about its past and about the history of the Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Tau it succeeded.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 88: Schedule of throwback social media posts for spring '24

Throwback Thursday Social Media Posting Schedule		
Dates	Event Name	Images
2/15/2024	Dedication of Bentzy 1980-81	only two there
2/22/2024	District 9 Conference Feb 1992	130
		131
		139
		141
		143
		146
2/29/2024	Painting Fire station #1 1990-91	1
		2
		48
		56
		40
3/7/2024	Highway Cleanup spring 2016	cleanup
3/14/2024	Canned Food Drive 2019-2020	one pic
3/21/2024	Signature Book Signing Spring 1991	four pics
3/28/2024	Whitewashing 02-03	A5
		1732
		1738
		1742
		260477
4/4/2024	Officer meeting 1990-91	four pics
4/11/2024	1973 national convention	There's a newspaper clipping and a picture
4/18/2024	1998 national convention	TBD still processing
4/22/2024	Tree Planting April 2006 (Earth Day)	P29..4
		P40..4
		P40..6
		10
		11
		59
4/25/2024	Misc. Scrapbook pics from 80s	TBD still processing
5/2/2024	2009 national convention nyc	1st pic
		5th pic
		3055

Figure 89: Kansas Gamma installation



Kansas Gamma at Kansas State University

Kansas Gamma was installed on January 27 as the Association's 148th active collegiate chapter, and members of Sigma Tau's Epsilon chapter were initiated into Kansas Gamma in the same ceremony. Attended by Advisor F. A. Tillman, Kansas Gamma President J. R. Schlup (second from right) displayed his chapter's charter as Sigma Tau Advisor E. C. Lindly and J. D. Wilson, president of the Epsilon chapter of Sigma Tau, held the supplemental charter taking note of Kansas Gamma's Sigma Tau antecedents.

Figure 90: 1992 District 9 Conference



Figure 91: Painting the Ogden, KS fire station



Figure 92: Kansas Gamma visits the NYSE



34 February Bent Decoration

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 02/04/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	3
Members	4
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
1.0	1.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

At the beginning of every month, Tau Beta Pi members decorate our Bent monument according to the month's corresponding themes and holidays. For February, we used the holidays Valentine's Day, Groundhog's Day, & The Chinese New Year. The Bent was smothered in lovely colors. Towards the bottom of the Bent, a paper dragon was hung, since it is now the year of the dragon. Also on the base was a paper and fabric groundhog, which hopefully didn't place a curse on us. We also took the chance to set out a poster for the upcoming Engineering Formal that was being organized by the chapter at that time.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

This activity helps general engineering students and visitors notice our Bent monument, potentially inspiring them to investigate its purpose. Students that already know of the monument may talk about its decor with those who don't, thus spreading word about the chapter and increasing recognition of Tau Beta Pi at K-State. The event also facilitates socialization and comradery between Tau Beta Pi members, nurturing a sense of community within our chapter.

iii. Organization and Administration

Events Director Dalton Rizzo and President Nick Divilbiss bought supplies for the event, which

included ready-made decor and craft materials for creating custom decor. While some members were applying the pre-made decor, the others were crafting decor.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$15.27

v. **Cost Breakdown**

Craft materials for this event and future Bent decorations cost \$15.27. This included felt in a variety of colors, an assortment of colored streamers, heart & emoji stickers, etc.. There were plenty of members present to ensure speedy and colorful success.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

No special problems occurred.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

A MAJOR SUCCESS: This event went exactly how we intended it to when we first envisioned recurring Bent decorations. There were members in attendance who wouldn't normally interact, but instead shared good conversations and became more familiar with each other, which increased their sense of community within the Chapter. The bent was completely loaded with Valentine's Day decor, which our members had a joyous time applying. To add a little flavor to the decor, we created a paper dragon that hung like a spring from the bottom of the bent, which was a genius use of paper plates, so we'll remember that in case we need a sort of spring-shaped decor again. Two members meticulously crafted a little brown groundhog, which is an obvious staple of the month of February. It may be correlated that the members present for this event also put in a strong effort in the setting up of the Grand Ballroom used on the day of the Engineering Formal, which can act as evidence that this small interaction may have been a subconscious factor in whether or not they chose to assist with the endeavors of our Chapter. Thus, this event went exactly how we originally intended, such that it fostered a sense of community between members.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 93: Bentzy in her glorious February decor



Figure 94: L-to-R: McKenzie, Woodsmall, Maurer, Arensman, Rizzo, & Thimmesch



Figure 95: L-to-R: Rizzo, Woodsmall, Maurer, Divilbiss, Thimmesch, Arensman, & McKenzie



35 Spring 2024 Orientation Week

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 02/05/24 - 02/09/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Chapter Development
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☐ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Candidates	33
Officers	5
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
2.0	2.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

The old orientation process looked like this: Candidates received an impersonal mass email inviting them to one mandatory business casual orientation session, held at 6:30 pm on a Tuesday or Wednesday in a 200-person lecture hall where all the officers awkwardly stood up front while the president talked through slides that barely touched on the chapter's legacy, focusing instead on basic eligibility criteria. The old format was impersonal, because the presentation was given in lecture format in a massive hard-surfaced hall, and because the president stood and talked up at the audience, but never with the audience. It was unprofessional in that the slides were poorly put together, usually out-of-date, and always graphically inconsistent with the brand guidelines of Tau Beta Pi. It was awkward and inconsiderate of people's time since all officers had to attend, yet they had no speaking role, and since candidates had to make the scheduled time work with no flexibility. Candidates leaving an old session had little knowledge about the chapter's legacy and impact on the community.

The new process looks like this: Candidates are sent a personal email showing them our Bent (Bentzy) in the atrium and describing many positive aspects of our chapter. The email is addressed to their first name using a mail merge. We now host an orientation week with

2 sessions per day for 6 days, adding inherent flexibility. The sessions are held in a small, carpeted classroom with movable seating, so attendees can sit comfortably wherever they please. Typically, one or two officers attend and talk through the new orientation slides in a seated, conversational format. There is no dress code, so busy students needn't drive home to change clothes. The new presentation was created using the Tau Beta Pi template and describes eligibility requirements, Association structure, chapter history, membership benefits, and the candidacy process. The new process is personal, professional, and intentional

ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

This project was part of the overhaul of Kansas Gamma's candidacy process during spring 2024. Over time, the candidacy process had become impersonal, unprofessional, and lackadaisical. In fall 2023, the ball was dropped so hard that we only recruited 6 new student members, and half of them should've been rejected due to the poor quality and/or incompleteness of their signature books and electee exams. President Nick Divilbiss did not provide close enough oversight and discovered these issues too late into the process.

Motivated to never fail so badly again, the chapter was determined to reinvent its candidacy process in spring 2024 such that candidates would only be elected if they adhered to the highest of standards and if they qualified their interest by demonstrating proper knowledge of the history and purpose of the Tau Beta Pi Association, the Kansas Gamma Chapter, and the Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Tau.

The purpose of this project was to ensure that only the finest and most dedicated candidates are initiated into Tau Beta Pi, and that they understand how meaningful their membership is. In ensuring these things, Kansas Gamma intends for its members to become devoted lifetime supporters of the Association and its objectives.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

President Divilbiss was the lead officer on this project and developed the new process with a great deal of input from all officers. Divilbiss developed the new slides since he has spent much time and effort researching the chapter's history and legacy. He hosted every orientation session, and other officers co-hosted the sessions as their schedules allowed. President Courtney Chase of the California Xi Chapter at San Diego State University was most helpful in developing the new process, as she is the one who introduced the idea of hosting 2 sessions per day for 6 days as a means of making the process as flexible as possible for eligible candidates. The Kansas State Tau Beta Pi Alumni Network was utilized to collect feedback from alumni on their favorite Tau Beta Pi memories so that they could be shared with candidates, showing them what they would likely look back on with pride in 5, 10, or 15 years.

iv. **In Conjunction With**

California Xi Chapter, Kansas Gamma Alumni

v. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

vi. **Cost Breakdown**

No cost was associated with this project. One officer was required to host each session, and usually two or three attended.

vii. **Special Problems Encountered**

No major issues took place during this project. The slideshow is a bit lengthy, so some trimming

needs to be done, as it currently takes about 50 minutes to talk through. It is still tough to get many responses from the emails. Scheduling for 12 sessions is challenging, but Signup Genius worked fairly well.

viii. **Overall Evaluation**

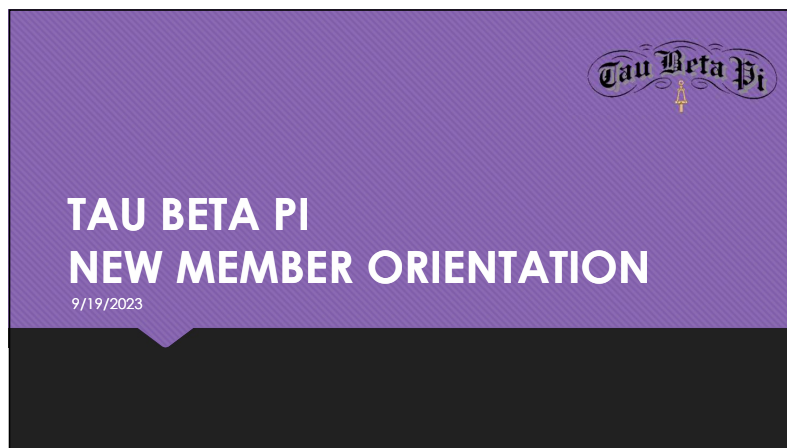
A MAJOR SUCCESS: Candidates felt comfortable during these sessions. The information was conveyed with casual friendly conversations instead of one-way lectures. By breaking the one session into many, we reduced the number of attendees at each session which made them much more personalized. In fact, there were a couple of sessions with only two attendees, so President Divilbiss was able to talk personally with them about their experiences and reasons for interest in Tau Beta Pi. After attending one of the new sessions, each candidate knew more about the Association, our chapter, and Sigma Tau, than any of our current members (excluding officers). The new orientation focuses heavily on the meaning and impact of Tau Beta Pi, which is an intentional way for us to seek out the people who care about and wish to further those aspects. The entire candidacy process was broken down into phases and described in detail, and example signature book handouts were made so that candidates could physically flip through them to see exactly what our expectations and requirements are. This project accomplished every goal that it intended to and has led to the initiation of 13 of the finest undergraduate candidates this chapter has seen in many years.

Next semester, we intend to take the new recruitment process even further by having multiple officers reach out to eligible candidates both personally and via email.

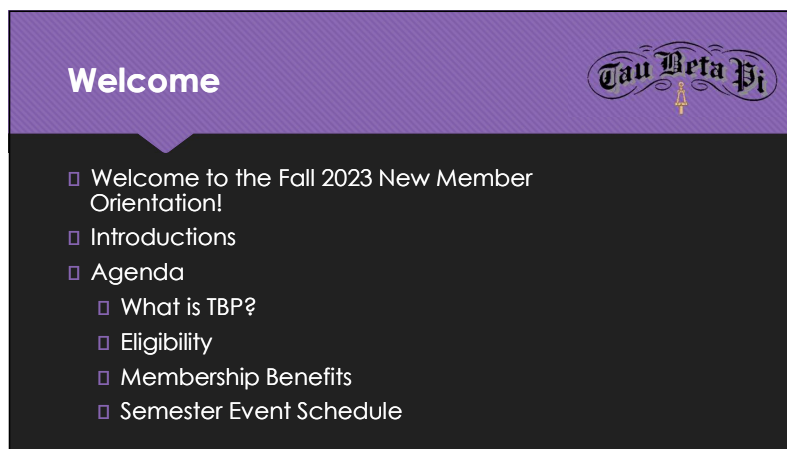
3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 96: Old orientation slides (F23)

5/14/2024



1

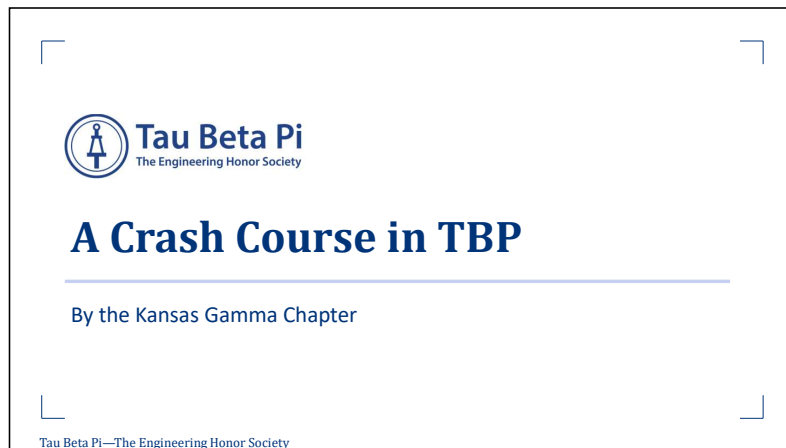


2

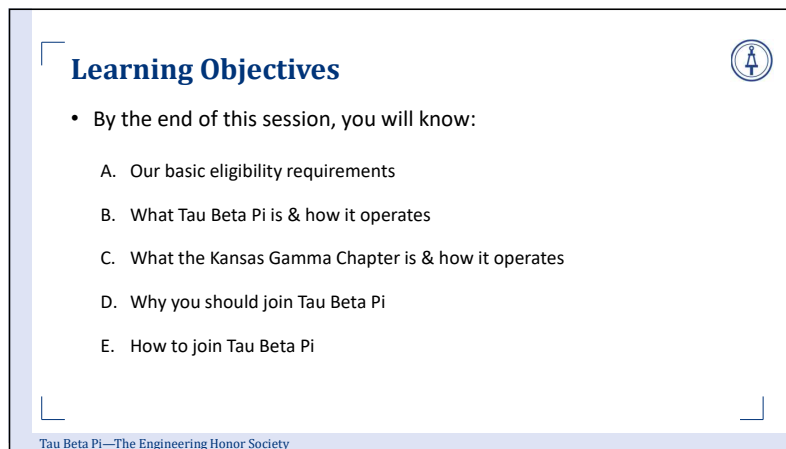
1

Figure 97: New orientation slides (S24)

5/13/2024



1



2

1

Figure 98: Old invitation email (S23)

Dear student,

Congratulations!

Due to your high academic standing in Kansas State University's College of Engineering, you are eligible for membership in the Kansas Gamma chapter of Tau Beta Pi, the largest and oldest *National Engineering Honor Society*.

Tau Beta Pi is composed of members that have distinguished themselves with both outstanding scholarship and exemplary character. Membership not only marks a person as a leader amongst their fellow engineers, but also provides you with unique scholarship and leadership opportunities, various savings perks, and fantastic networking.

Consideration for membership in Tau Beta Pi is a testament to your accomplishments as a student. On behalf of the entire engineering faculty and of our organization, we offer our sincerest congratulations in recognition of your achievements.

The first meeting for those eligible to join Tau Beta Pi will be held on **Tuesday, February 28th at 6:30 p.m.** in DUR 1073 (Paslay Auditorium). Although you are highly encouraged to attend in-person if possible, if for any reason you cannot make it, we will be holding a makeup meeting on Wednesday, February 29th at 6:30pm via Zoom. Attendance at this meeting is *necessary* for those who wish to join. Dress for this event is *business casual*. If you are interested in learning more, please RSVP using the attached link:

[RSVP Form Here](#)

Again, congratulations on your achievements! For additional information, please visit our national website at www.tbp.org, or our local website at www.engg.ksu.edu/tbp. Any questions about Tau Beta Pi can be directed to myself, Braden Funk, at brfunk331@ksu.edu.

Sincerely,

Braden Funk

Computer Engineering Student

Tau Beta Pi Honor Society Membership Coordinator

Kansas State University Class of 2023

E: brfunk331@ksu.edu

Figure 99: New invitation email (S24)

Hello from Bentzy, the Tau Beta Pi Bent

Nicholas Divilbiss <nickdivilbiss@ksu.edu>

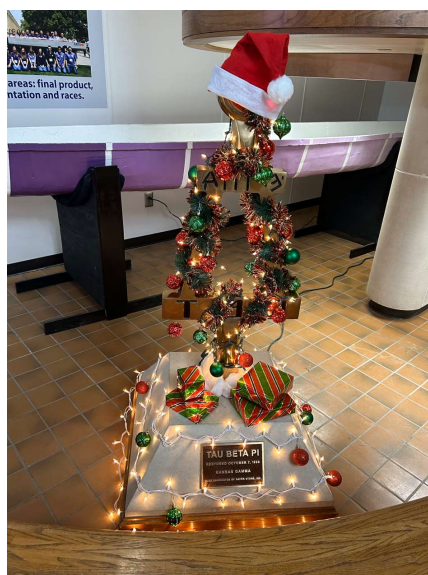
Tue 1/23/2024 8:00 AM

To: Nicholas Divilbiss <nickdivilbiss@ksu.edu>

Cc: 2023-2024 Tau Beta Pi Officers <taubetapiOfficers2023-24@KSUemailProd.onmicrosoft.com>; Tau Beta Pi Advisors <taubetapiadvisors@KSUemailProd.onmicrosoft.com>

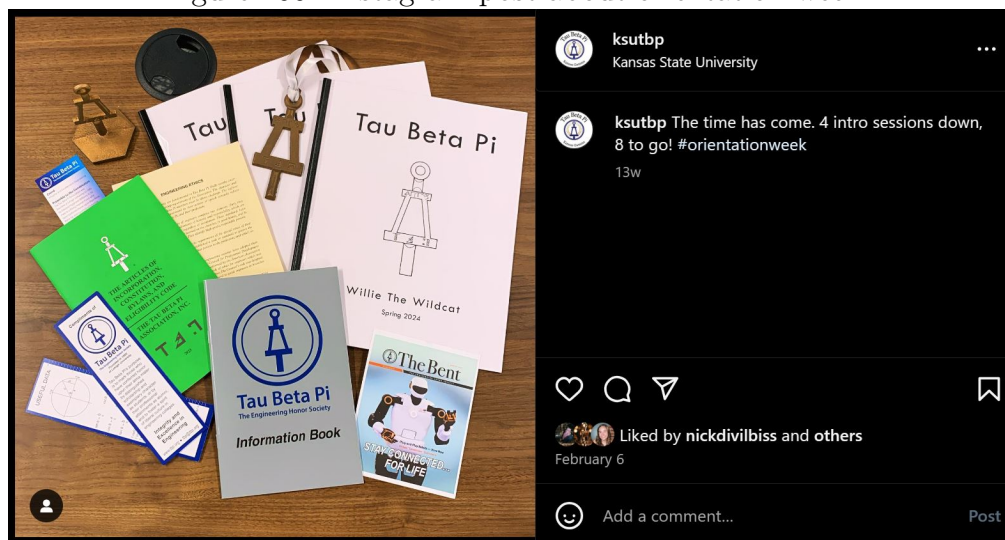
Hello and congratulations!

Greetings from Bentzy the Tau Beta Pi Bent! Due to your high standing in the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering, you are academically eligible for membership in the Tau Beta Pi Association, which is the Phi Beta Kappa of engineering. It is the oldest and strongest (and coolest) engineering honor society. Locally, Tau Beta Pi's Kansas Gamma Chapter has long been a part of engineering at K-State, and will be turning 50 years old this Saturday, on January 27th.



Tau Beta Pi members such as Dean O'Keefe (MO Beta), Dr. Julia Keen (KS Gamma), and Dr. Kevin Wanklyn (KS Gamma), were initiated for their distinguished scholarship and exemplary character. Membership in Tau Beta Pi not only marks a person as a virtuous leader amongst their fellow engineers, but also provides them with scholarship and fellowship opportunities, leadership and networking opportunities, and community service and friendship opportunities. Personally, my favorite benefits of Tau Beta Pi have been the leadership experience I have gained, both while leading our local Chapter and while leading the Program Review Committee during our last national convention, as well as the wonderful friendships I have made thanks to Tau Beta Pi at K-State and afar. As a matter of fact, I have even picked up two long distance pen pals through Tau Beta Pi.

Figure 100: Instagram post about orientation week



36 2024 Kansas Gamma TBP Poster Design Competition

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 02/16/24 - 03/22/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	1
Members	3
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
3.0	3.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

The Kansas Gamma Chapter held the 2024 poster design competition to create suitable, appealing posters that could represent Tau Beta Pi at a national level. While TBP currently has posters that do this, we believe that they can be improved upon. We reached out to our members and offered scholarship rewards for the creation of posters that capture people's attention and made them curious or excited about Tau Beta Pi. The resulting posters were then voted upon by chapter members in a Canvas poll, and scholarships were awarded to the first, second, and third place winners for \$150, \$100, and \$50, respectively.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

The ultimate goal of this competition was to improve the public perception of Tau Beta Pi and create intrigue about its purpose and activities through these posters. Tau Beta Pi states one of our national strategic goals as "Enhancing the Image, Visibility, and Branding of Tau Beta Pi." This competition aimed to help accomplish this goal.

iii. Organization and Administration

The organization and administration of the poster competition was carried out by me (Henry Bash) and involved setting up deadlines, organizing the scholarships for winners, creating the Canvas submission page, and sending out reminders as the deadline approached.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$300.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

Project cost was due to scholarships awarded to competition winners. \$150 for first place, \$100 for second, \$50 for third.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

N/A

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

The competition was moderately successful in execution. Overall, seven posters were submitted by three participants. Eighteen Kansas Gamma members voted on the posters, and three winners were successfully chosen. One of the initial apprehensions about the project is that less than three posters would be ultimately submitted, so having seven submissions was a relief. The quality of the submitted posters was very good. We are highly satisfied with the results of this competition, and we intend to present them at the 2024 convention in Rapid City.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 101: Submissions 1, 2, 3, & 4

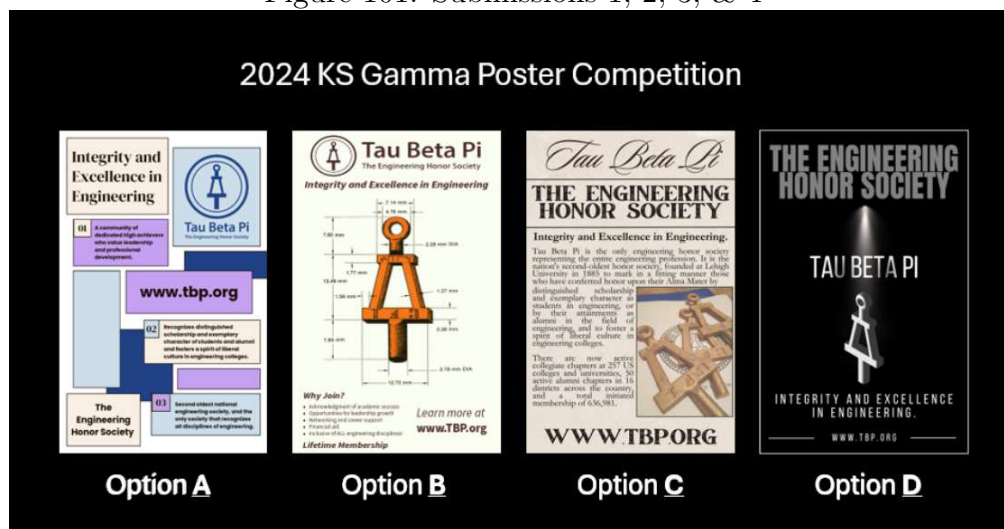


Figure 102: Submissions 5, 6, & 7

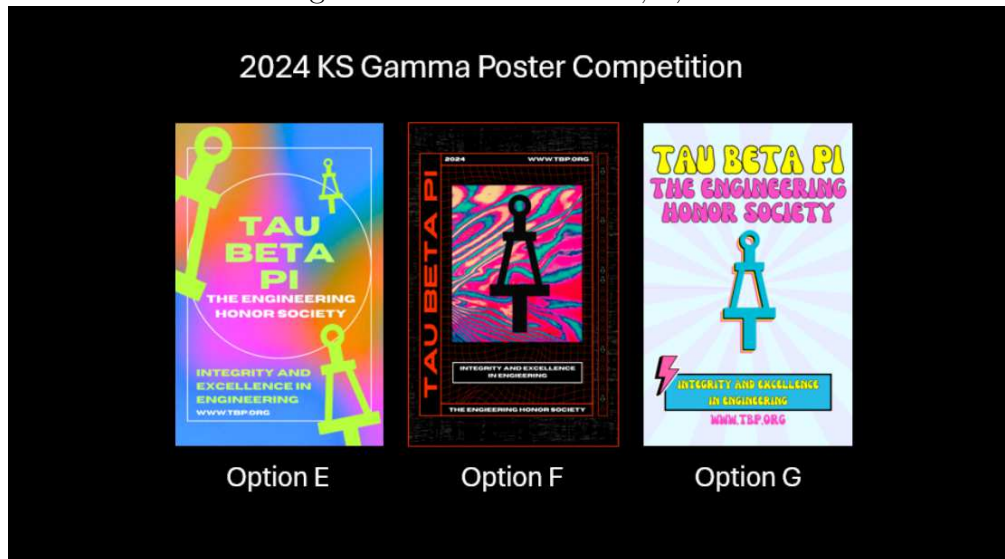


Figure 103: Results of selection survey

2024 Kansas Gamma Poster Competition

18 Responses

05:01 Average time to complete

Closed Status

1. Question (0 point)

OptionA	2
OptionB	14
OptionC	7
OptionD	3
OptionE	2
OptionF	4
OptionG	2

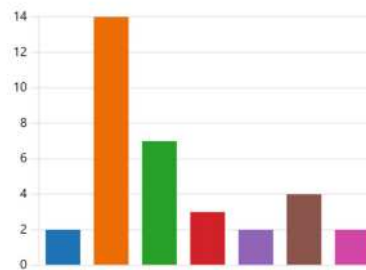
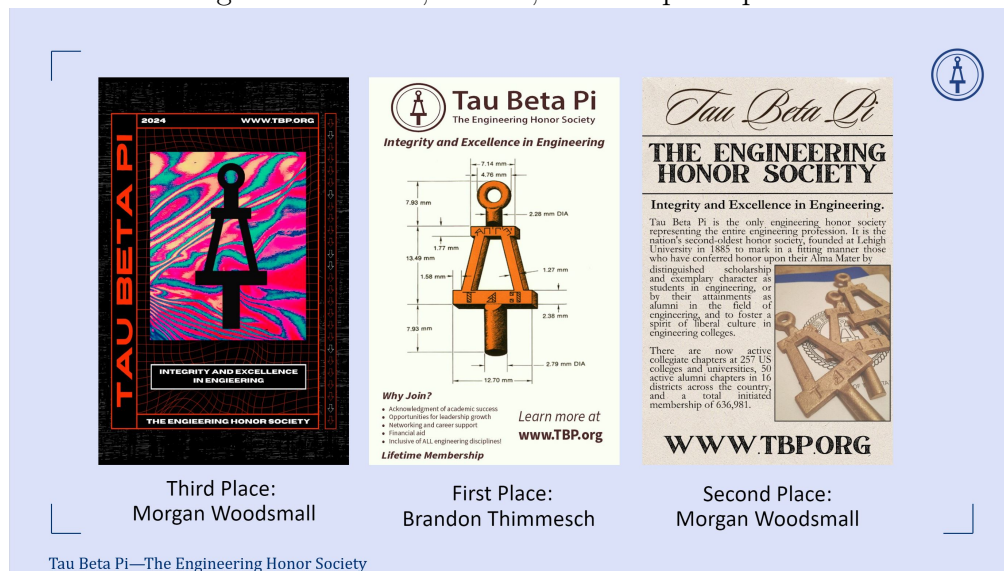


Figure 104: First, second, & third place posters



37 Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 02/18/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☒ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	5
Members	3
Electees	5

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
1.5	4.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) has a program called Adopt-A-Highway (AAH) where organizations, usually boy scout troops, charity organizations, or Greek Houses, can adopt a 2-mile section of roadway. In exchange for keeping the sides of the roadway clear of trash and debris, KDOT pays a stipend of \$190 for each of three annual clean-ups required of the adopting organization. We simply gather loose trash into bags and collect them, along with larger debris, into piles for KDOT to pick up afterwards.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

This event serves many purposes. We serve the community by keeping our portion of highway clean and raise funds with the State's stipend. It also helps build relationships between members as they accomplish an uncomfortable task then share a meal afterwards and chat about the experience and other topics. For the those working towards membership as a candidate, this is a required event that shows them an integral part of being in Tau Beta Pi and how Kansas Gamma fulfills the society's mission.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

The following is done by the Director of Events & Programs. The local KDOT office in Wamego is contacted. They are informed about our chosen date for cleaning-up and a time for retrieving the safety vests and trashbags is scheduled. The equipment is picked up during the week leading up to the clean-up event. The safety waiver and stipend request documents are printed. The event was posted in an announcement and as an assignment in the points system on our Canvas course, to keep general members aware of its time and date. Now for details concerning the actual event. On the day of the event, members gathered at the engineering hall, signed the waiver, were given vests, trash bags, and gloves, then sat in a lecture hall for a safety briefing. Based on the number of attendees, President Divilbiss ordered pizza to be picked up at 4:00pm, as is typically the time at which the job is done. Director Rizzo discussed expectations and the plan-of-action with the attendees, after they watched a KDOT safety video, then split them into four groups. Each group was given a quadrant of our 2-mile section of roadway, along with a map for direction on their quadrant and parking. The group leaders stayed in contact though the GroupMe app. Group leaders keep count of trash bags tied-off and if any roadkill or chemical dumps were found. If any group finishes first, they move to the quadrant with the most roadside left to clean. After the job was done, President Divilbiss picked up the pizza with the help of a member. The rest of the attendees gathered back at the engineering hall, where officers gathered the supplies. The attendees were then allowed to leave, but the Chapter then hosted a meal in the Leadership (Conference) Room that we have access to, where most attendees stayed for pizza and chatter afterwards. Following the event, the Director of E&P returns the equipment to KDOT, turns in the signed waiver and stipend request, then also emails them photos of the cleanup.

iv. **In Conjunction With**

Kansas Department Of Transportation (KDOT)

v. **Total Cost**

\$61.44

vi. **Cost Breakdown**

(2) cases of bottled water = \$10.44. (6) Domino's pizzas = \$51.00. The (13) members present were enough to clean our entire section of road. We had enough officers present to have an officer lead each group. Members that were present have experience with the clean-up, which aided its operation. President Divilbiss and Director Rizzo have organized many clean-ups, so the undertaking was efficient.

vii. **Special Problems Encountered**

The Southwest quadrant took the longest and required back-up, even though that group was allocated the most attendees. The Road Crew Working sign in the Northwest quadrant has a rusty bolt, preventing it from being displayed. We informed KDOT, but if they don't fix the sign, then we may need to bring pliers and WD-40 for the next highway clean-up event.

viii. **Overall Evaluation**

SUCCESS: Even though the SW quadrant required three groups to finish it towards the end of the event, the entirety of our section was cleaned and the local KDOT office was pleased with the results. Amongst the 40 trash bags filled was plastic debris and random scrap metal. Members also came across many rotting raccoon carcasses. Officers were glad to see three general members attend the event, as they boosted the morale of the candidates that attended. Nearly all the attendees stayed afterwards to eat pizza and we all shared much laughter, including wise

remarks about the pungent odor of the dead raccoon. This interaction worked exactly as we intended, as a sense of camaraderie is shared between members and their sense of belonging within Kansas Gamma was improved. Later it was recognized that the map that was prepared for the event, which detailed parking locations and landmarks, helped in its operation, so it will be continually improved. The photographs taken during the event served us well on a social media post. The event was successful in serving the community, building community withing our chapter, and improving our chapter's public image.

3. Additional Attachments

Figure 105: Pile of grabage and members on a narrow stretch.



Figure 106: The ultimate safety fashion, Adopt-A-Highway Volunteer



Figure 107: Logan Newsom (L) and Matthew Culbertson (R) rolled up our banner in front of AAH sign.



Figure 108: KS-G Highway Clean-up Crew



Figure 109: The famous Mason Ericson displaying the Wildcat hand-sign (although backwards).



38 Signature Social

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 02/26/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☐ Custom
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	8
Members	15
Electees	10

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
1.5	2.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

Every semester, our Chapter holds a social where candidates can meet members and ask for contribution to their signature book as they work towards its completion, which includes a signature and tidbit of advice from five general members. This event serves as a culmination of the signature book portion of the candidacy process, since many general members can be found in one place. Candidates can also seek assistance in both answering the electee exam questions. This event is scheduled near the deadline for completion of the signature books, so candidates typically turn in their books to officer at this event. For this iteration, we decided to change the atmosphere and intention behind it. In the past, the event was held in transient spaces like hallways and atriums with cocktail tables, thus creating a transitional atmosphere which would cause people to not commit time and fully engage in the event for an extended period of time. We intended for this iteration to have a transformative undertone, where members would relax in a seating area while they had their meal then either played a table game or watched a form of entertainment. We hoped this would motivate members to dedicate more effort to socializing with the candidates or other members. This event being the first iteration of its kind, we did not fully know what to expect from this experiment. However, we did expect it to improve the chapter's culture, since our former advisor Dr. Fowler told us that the event used to be held in a similar fashion in the 1990's.

ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

This event stimulates relationships between candidates and members, thus nurturing the Chapter's community and strengthening our identity. It also helps candidates as they work towards completing their signature books, which solidifies both their understanding of the society as a whole and character of the local chapter.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

Director Rizzo tackled the feat of organizing this experimental iteration of our semesterly signature social. When the event was scheduled, it was done so without consideration of a basketball game which was to occur the same evening. After learning about the game, a way to stream the West Virginia vs K-State game was found, and it was done by taking advantage of a free-trial through FuboTV. To aid in event planning, a survey was assigned to general members in our Canvas course. It asked what board/card games members wanted to play, where they prefer to have the event, and what other general suggestions they might have. Surprisingly, an overwhelming number of members asked for the event to be held in the College of Engineering instead of the student union. The WiE conference room in the college was reserved a week in advance, which has a giant TV along with plenty of table space and seating, and food is allowed in the room. The event was posted in two announcements and as an assignment in the points system on our Canvas course, to keep general members aware of its time and date. Members were twice reminded that this event has a stronger effect on their membership status and overall course grade. The K-State Union Program Council (UPC) allows their board & card games to be loaned out for free from their collection. Using survey results, five games were borrowed for the event. The Canvas assignment asked for an RSVP, so the proper quantity of refreshments and pizza could be bought. A few days before the event, beverages and popcorn were bought from Dollar General. On the morning of the event, pizza was ordered to be picked up shortly before the event. The computer that plugged into the TV was able to stream the game on Microsoft's Internet Explorer, since Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome would not stream the game for some odd reason. Most refreshments were consumed, so clean-up was easy. We occupied the room until the end of the basketball game at 9:00pm.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$114.58

v. **Cost Breakdown**

\$96.00 = 12 Domino's pizzas. \$18.58 = Beverages & Popcorn. There were plenty of officers there to help include everyone and keep groups entertained. Events Director Rizzo, President Divilbiss, and Awards Director Bash were able to adequately prepare the space and gather the refreshments before the event was in full swing.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

It is highly regrettable that we didn't have the mind to take pictures during the event. We had a large crowd of members all interacting, and photos would've been great for our social media accounts and for posterity. We must remember to take picture during future iterations. Although many people were present, by an hour into the event, nearly half of the members left. We had hoped board/card games and streaming the KSU basketball game would've help keep members around.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

MAJOR SUCCESS: Although a large portion of attendees only stayed for little under an hour, it was the greatest turnout for a signature social we've ever had. President Divilbiss was

pleasantly surprised by the crowd when he and Director Bash arrived with the pizzas, he was then quick to greet more members as they arrived. Once the room was relatively full and the game was playing on the TV, Director Rizzo spoke to the group with appreciation, explained the refreshment options, and motivated collaboration over signature books. Candidates quickly spread out across the room and talked with members. After members went through the food line, groups assembled over multiple board and card games, while one group became dedicated to watching the basketball game. The larger TV facilitated group engagement with the basketball game and most rallied for K-State. Members were delighted to have the game streamed and have free access to it. The WiE conference room is within a larger common room for students and the walls that separate the two are made of glass, so bystanders noticed both our event and the basketball game. This caused some to be curious about our event, thus spreading recognition for KS-Gamma and TBP. After the first large departure, members trickled away until a dozen were left watching the game to the end, which included overtime. The large amount of members in attendance bolstered the morale of candidates, as they realized that they are joining an active community of TBP members. This event showed that with the right incentivization, careful scheduling, and desirable entertainment or a worthy mission, most general members are willing to participate in chapter activity. This event will be analyzed and referenced in the planning of future events, especially signature socials, which are an established chapter staple that we wish to improve to the point that members look forward to them.

3. Additional Attachments

Figure 110: Signature books collected



Figure 111: Remaining members after the first hour



39 March Bent Decoration

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 03/03/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	3
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
1.0	2.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

At the beginning of every month, Tau Beta Pi members decorate our Bent monument according to the month's corresponding themes and holidays. This month we decorated according to Women's History Month, Easter, & St. Patrick's Day.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

This activity helps general engineering students and visitors notice our Bent monument, potentially inspiring them to investigate its purpose. Students that already know of the monument may talk about its decor with those who don't, thus spreading word about the chapter and increasing recognition of Tau Beta Pi at K-State. The event also facilitates socialization and comradery between Tau Beta Pi members, nurturing a sense of community within our chapter.

iii. Organization and Administration

Events Director Rizzo and President Divilbiss purchased decoration supplies, which included balloons, plastic rabbit sculptures, mini-ribbon, plastic Easter eggs, an Easter basket, and fake grass. President Divilbiss brought his air pump that was built for inflating vinyl camping mattresses, but we repurposed it for inflating the balloons, so he arrived early to get a start on the balloons. The event was posted as an assignment in the calendar on our Canvas course to keep general members aware of its time and date.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$13.37

v. **Cost Breakdown**

\$13.37 = some of the material cost. President Divilbiss graciously donated the rest of the decorations to the Chapter. Between the three members present, we were able to effectively put together the decorations within a couple hours.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

Either static charge or minuscule particles were causing many balloons to prematurely burst after we placed them into the area surrounding the bent. This may have been prevented if the area was swept and all the dust and particles thrown out. Over the month, the make-shift posters for the Ladies of Tau Beta Pi also occasionally fell off of the staircase, which required our members to re-tape them onto the staircase. If we are to repeat this idea, then a more reliable mounting method is needed.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

MAJOR SUCCESS: We did not have the attendance we desired, for this may be due to the timing of the event. There is a city-wide pseudo holiday that is unique to Manhattan called Fake Patty's Day. Since the university schedules Spring Break over the week that begins with the actual St. Patrick's Day, the entire student body of the university uses the Saturday prior to Spring Break to publicly assemble on a particular neighborhood street where public intoxication and shenanigans are rampant. The bar-district in town is also outstandingly busy on this fake holiday. Due to this renowned festivity that mostly all university students partake in, the bent decoration event had a low attendance of only three officers. Since our event took place on the day directly after the fake holiday, most members were not particularly eager or motivated to decorate a monument. The event was fruitful in other ways though. Since we recognized Commander Nicole Mann (MD-G '99) as a Lady of Tau Beta Pi by creating a poster for her, it was seen by LaVerne Bitsie-Baldwin, the Director of the Multicultural Engineering Program, who later in the semester contacted us about co-hosting the "Meet Commander Mann" event. We also found a new limit for decorations, which now encompasses the entire ground area behind the bench divider and under the stairs, since we received no negative feedback from our college about filling the entire area with balloons. This will be exploited in future bent decorations and programs, for using all the space ensures maximum visibility and recognition within our college.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 112: The Spirit Squad: (L-R) Nick Divilbiss, Dalton Rizzo, Emily Pine



Figure 113: Crafted posters for the Women of TBP



Figure 114: Easter Bentzy



Figure 115: Ladies of Tau Beta Pi, pg 2

Lady of Tau Beta Pi



Judith A. Resnik (PA-G): Judith scored a perfect score on the SAT exam and attended Carnegie Mellon University where she studied Electrical Engg., during which she joined Tau Beta Pi. She furthered her studies with a Master's Degree and Ph.D. Judith was accepted into astronaut training as part of the Astronaut Group 8, the first to include women. She flew in the first Space Shuttle *Discovery* and logged 145 hours in orbit. Her bolstering career was ended early in the *Challenger* disaster of 1986.

Lady of Tau Beta Pi



Jamie P. Ginn (NJ-E): Jamie graduated from Rowan University after studying Chemical Engineering. After winning as a finalist in the TV Show *Pageant School* and winning the title Miss Delaware in 2006, she competed in Miss America in 2007. Jamie is currently employed at DuPont de Nemours, Inc..

Figure 116: Ladies of Tau Beta Pi, pg 1

Lady of Tau Beta Pi



Nicole Aunapu Mann (MD-G): A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Stanford University, & U.S. Naval Test Pilot School, Nicole has over 2,500 flight hours and has flown 47 combat missions in the F/A-8 Hornet. She now a flight commander for NASA's Commercial Crew Program and works with Space-X and Boeing spacecraft. Nicole's collegiate study was in Mechanical Engg. with focus in fluid dynamics.

Lady of Tau Beta Pi



Maryly Van Leer Peck (TN-B): Maryly was the first woman to graduate from Vanderbilt University with a degree in Chemical Engg. as a member of the first graduating class that included women. She is also the first lady to be initiated into Tau Beta Pi. Maryly also was the first at the University of Florida to earn a Master's Degree and Ph.D. She served as the National Chair of Student Affairs for SWE during her life. In industry, she worker for the U.S. Naval Research Lab and helped develop rocket engines and fuel stilled used today.

40 "Pi Day Across the USA"

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 03/14/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	10
Members	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
2.0	1.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

Kansas State University typically schedules spring break during the week of March 14th. We decided to hold a virtual event to still celebrate our namesake holiday even though classes wouldn't be in session. Since our members were going to be spread out across the country on vacation, there would be plenty of opportunity for members to seek out other bents using the Bent-O-Rama map. A challenge was proposed to our members, where if they committed to finding a bent near their spring break destination, then we would reward them with an official Tau Beta Pi Pi-Day shirt, but they had to get a picture with the bent they found. The shirt would be free for the member, and they would be motivated to go on a search & snap mission. The photos were gathered and used for an Instagram post on March 14th as a form of celebration of the day and an interactive event that members could be a part of from afar. The event was also open to Kansas Gamma alumni that wanted to join in on the fun, since they could use the list of Pi-Day celebrations on tbp.org to be directed to our Chapter's contact.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

Collegiate chapters are incentivized to somehow celebrate the Pi_Day (March 14th), so Kansas Gamma found a way to celebrate in spite of our university being on spring break. The search &

snap mission that we gave to our members compelled them to explore other college campuses in search of the bents. This increased the traffic on the bents.tbp.org and helped spread news of the Bent-O-Rama to family, friends, students, etc.. Some members reached out to the chapters at the campuses they were visiting, which stimulated the growth of the national community of TBP members. The chapters that owned the bents that were visited were also tagged on the Instagram post, which implored them to interact with our post and stimulate conversation, thus strengthening the inter-chapter community. Overall, the event solidified the image of TBP for both members, those involved in the members search & snap mission, and those that follow The Chapter's Instagram account.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

The Chapter was first informed about the event a little under two weeks before Pi-Day. Through multiple Canvas announcements, they were given the full details, including the trade-off of a t-shirt for a picture, where to send photos, the deadline for sending in the photo, a link to bents.tbp.org, why March 14 is celebrated, and what will be posted on Instagram. This announcement also included a link to a form to be completed that asked for shirt size and what chapter would be visited. Since we had to expedite the gathering of information so that the shirts could be bought and shipped in a timely manner, we closed the option to accept the challenge a few days after the first announcement. Once the form was closed, the shirts were ordered, and they arrived before spring break. President Divilbiss distributed the shirts to the members that signed-up. These members were then added to a GroupMe chatroom where we could discuss the virtual event and share our photos before the deadline. All members sent in their photos by March 13th. On Pi-Day, Director Rizzo crafted an Instagram Reel of all the photos, which automatically played the photos in a slideshow with background music. The Kansas song Taking In The View was chosen for its jovial sound, relative lyrics, and reference to our Chapter's home state. Each photo was edited to include words describing the chapter and campus the bent belonged to. The Association's Director of Marketing & Communications was notified of our event plans. After Director Rizzo reached out, our event was added to the list on bents.tbp.org, which included a link to his email in case any KS-G alumni wanted to join the virtual event by sending in a picture of them with TBP gear on and standing next to a bent near their location. The event was also posted as an assignment worth points for members.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$211.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

\$211 = (13) Pi-Day t-shirts. We had (12) members participate in the virtual event, which was enough for a decent sized Instagram Reel that helped keep our Chapter's social media active over spring break.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

The title for the reel, which was on the first photo, was not easily seen when viewed on mobile devices, so the reel wasn't introduced with our clever name for the virtual event. A better thumbnail/cover photo could've been created for the reel and served as a title slide. One of the members who reserved a shirt backed out at the last-minute, so we ordered an extra shirt.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

The Instagram Reel has over 760 views and 33 likes, so it was noticed and received well. The reel was submitted for a collaborative post between the Kansas Gamma account and the Association's account, but they didn't accept, which would've greatly boosted our exposure. We

are not sure why they didn't accept the collaboration, but it is speculated that the bad cover slide is the fault, though there are many possible reasons. It's possible that they don't know how to collaborate. Our members enjoyed finding the bents on new campuses that they'd never seen and the photos they submitted were all well-done. The physical bents that they found assisted their realization that TBP is a national organization, and its community exists outside of KS-G. The shirts were also well-received by our members and are worn occasionally while they are on our campus, which helps solidify Kansas Gamma's presence at K-State. The Instagram post adds substance to our profile, especially since it shows many members being active on a national scale during spring break, so it'll surely be noticed by newcomers to the profile. Since K-State typically schedules spring break over March 14th, we may try the same event for the next academic year. One challenge is doing it with smaller expense to the Chapter. We may ask members to participate for a smaller reward or find another incentive. We will also start planning the virtual event much earlier, so more members can be involved, and alumni can be notified so that they may join the celebration.

3. Additional Attachments

Figure 117: President Divilbiss @ Puerto Rico Alpha (University of Puerto Rico)



Figure 118: Membership Director Pine @ Tennessee Alpha (The University of Tennessee)



Figure 119: Secretary Wolf @ Florida Delta (University of Central Florida)



Figure 120: Officer Thimmesch @ Texas Xi (University of Texas at Dallas)



Figure 121: Event Director Rizzo @ California Alpha Beta (University of California, Riverside)



41 Policy on Organizational Structure

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 03/21/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Chapter Development
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☐ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	1
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
5.0	2.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

In accordance with the Tau Beta Pi Constitution and the Kansas Gamma Chapter Bylaws, this policy defines a new Executive Board structure for chapter leadership. It introduces three new director positions and provides for appointed committee officer positions. It provides that each elected director shall be the head of their respectively named committee and that they shall have the authority to appoint or dismiss committee officers as they wish. The policy defines committee charges for which each director shall be personally responsible. Finally, the policy codifies a new organizational chart to depict the Kansas Gamma leadership structure.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

This policy exists to clearly define the officer roles and structure of the Kansas Gamma Chapter. The Tau Beta Pi Constitution requires each chapter to have certain elected offices. Defined herein are additional elected and appointed offices specific to the Kansas Gamma Chapter.

In early 2024, it was observed that some officers prefer to be involved in a broad scope of chapter operations, whereas others wish to specialize in a singular area of focus. The latter group exhibited low attendance at executive meetings but accomplished their own tasks effectively. Thus, the 2023-2024 Executive Board enacted this policy which defines a second tier of officers

who are appointed to specialized positions.

At the same time, it was observed that the existing committee structures were not effective. The existing committees relied completely on officers volunteering for chair and cochair positions. There was no inherent accountability since committee responsibilities were distinctly separate from officers' personal responsibilities. This policy eliminated the old structure by creating three new 'Director' positions who chair their respectively named committees by default.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

President Divilbiss wrote the policy, and the officers voted for its approval.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

No cost was incurred for this project. Much discussion and deliberation were had among the officers over the course of multiple meetings.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

It was difficult to devise a flexible officer structure with inherent flexibility and adequate structure.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

While we won't know the full impact of this policy until the end of the 2024-25 officer terms, it is apparent that the three new leadership positions attract more dedicated officer candidates than the loosely defined positions of the past. Our previous Events Director Dalton Rizzo has been elected as our new Director of Events & Programs, and two of our newest members, Austin Mills and Jordan Rowse, have been elected as Director of Membership & Regalia and Director of Public Relations, respectively. Rizzo has a history of devoting much time and effort towards the chapter's success over the past year; Mills and Rowse have proactively begun to set goals and recruit members for their committees. The policy appears to be successful so far. For transparency's sake, all chapter policies are available to all members via the policies page on our Canvas course.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 122: Page 1 of 5

2024-03-21	POLICY ON ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE	TBP KS G
1	EFFECTIVE DATE	
2		
3	This policy shall become effective at 12:00 AM on May 1 st , 2024.	
4		
5	SUPERSESSION	
6		
7	This is the first Policy on Organizational Structure.	
8		
9	SCOPE LIMITATION	
10		
11	Detailed lists of responsibilities for all officer positions are assigned by other chapter policies, but	
12	the underlying objective for each Director position are defined herein.	
13		
14	OFFICER POSITIONS	
15		
16	• There shall be standard elected positions in accordance with the Constitution of the Tau	
17	Beta Pi Association and the Bylaws of the Kansas Gamma Chapter.	
18	• There shall be three additional elected positions, namely:	
19	○ Director of Membership & Regalia	
20	○ Director of Programs & Events	
21	○ Director of Public Relations	
22	• There shall be appointed officer positions. These shall be created as needs arise.	
23		
24	DIRECTOR RESPONSIBILITIES / COMMITTEE OBJECTIVES	
25		
26	• Director of Membership & Regalia (Membership & Regalia Committee Chair)	
27	• It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Membership & Regalia to ensure that	
28	the Kansas Gamma Chapter remains in direct contact with its current membership,	
29	local alumni, and the Tau Beta Pi faculty members at Kansas State university.	
30	• It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Membership & Regalia to ensure that	
31	the Kansas Gamma Chapter has an effective and successful candidacy and	
32	initiation process every semester.	
33	• It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Membership & Regalia to constantly	
34	analyze the effectiveness of the candidacy process and engineer ways in which	
35	the chapter can improve its recruitment efforts.	
36	• It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Membership & Regalia to maintain a	
37	working relationship with their committee advisor.	
38	• It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Membership & Regalia to provide a	
39	report of their committee's activity at every Executive Board meeting.	
40	• It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Membership & Regalia to submit	
41	relevant project reports to Headquarters via the online reporting system.	
42		
43		

Figure 123: Page 2 of 5

2024-03-21

POLICY ON ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

TBP | KS G

- Director of Programs & Events (Programs & Events Committee Chair)
 - It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Programs & Events to ensure the success of all regular service projects so that they are completed on time and without the occurrence of major incidents.
 - It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Programs & Events to ensure the success of annual outreach events so that they are completed on schedule and without the occurrence of major incidents.
 - It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Programs & Events to constantly analyze the popular opinions of chapter events, and to engineer new and meaningful events to serve chapter members and the college in alignment with the chapter's mission.
 - It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Programs & Events to maintain a working relationship with their committee advisor.
 - It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Programs & Events to provide a report of their committee's activity at every Executive Board meeting.
 - It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Programs & Events to submit relevant project reports to Headquarters via the online reporting system.
- Director of Public Relations (Public Relations Committee Chair)
 - It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Public Relations to ensure that every event completed by the Kansas Gamma Chapter is publicized to the highest reasonable extent across all channels of communication.
 - It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Public Relations to ensure that the Kansas Gamma Chapter has a positive image and is widely known throughout the College of Engineering at Kansas State University.
 - It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Public Relations to maintain a working relationship with their committee advisor.
 - It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Public Relations to provide a report of their committee's activity at every Executive Board meeting.
 - It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Public Relations to submit relevant project reports to Headquarters via the online reporting system.

DIRECTORS' AUTHORITY TO APPOINT COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Every director shall have the authority to define and fill appointed officer positions within their own respectively named committees. Appointed officers may serve for as long as they please, or until they are removed from office by their respective director or by action of the Executive Board or the Advisory Board.

DIRECTORS' PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Director positions are leadership positions, and those individuals must effectively lead their committees to accomplish goals and objectives. Regardless of their delegation of responsibilities

Figure 124: Page 3 of 5

2024-03-21	POLICY ON ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE	TBP KS G
87	within each of their committees, each director is personally responsible for upholding their	
88	objectives defined herein as well as their detailed responsibilities defined by other chapter	
89	policies.	
90		
91	TERMS AND ELECTIONS	
92		
93	Directors, like other elected officers, shall be elected in accordance with, and shall serve terms	
94	defined by the policies and Bylaws of the Kansas Gamma Chapter.	

Figure 125: Page 4 of 5

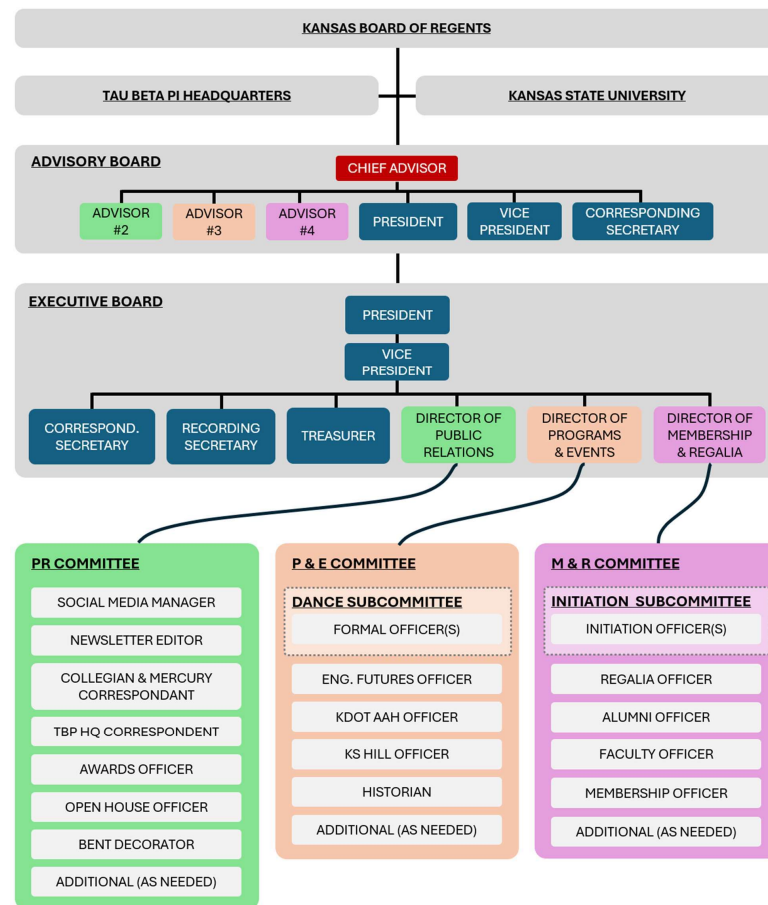
2024-03-21

POLICY ON ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

TBP | KS G

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE KANSAS GAMMA CHAPTER

The following diagram shall serve as the official visual representation of the organizational structure of the Kansas Gamma Chapter.



NOTE: Committee positions are appointed officer positions. Suggested positions are shown.

Figure 126: Page 5 of 5

2024-03-21	POLICY ON ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE	TBP KS G
139	COMMENTARY ON PURPOSE AND HISTORY	
140		
141	<p>PURPOSE: This policy exists to clearly define the officer roles and structure of the Kansas Gamma Chapter. The Tau Beta Pi Constitution requires each chapter to have certain elected offices. Defined herein are additional elected and appointed offices specific to the Kansas Gamma Chapter.</p>	
142		
143		
144		
145		
146	<p>BACKGROUND ON OFFICER POSITIONS: In early 2024, it was observed that some officers prefer to be involved in a broad scope of chapter operations, whereas others wish to specialize in a singular area of focus. The latter group exhibited low attendance at executive meetings but accomplished their own tasks effectively. Thus, the 2023-2024 Executive Board enacted this policy which defines a second tier of officers who are appointed to specialized positions.</p>	
147		
148		
149		
150		
151		
152	<p>BACKGROUND ON COMMITTEES: At the same time, it was observed that the existing committee structures were not effective. The existing committees relied completely on officers volunteering for chair and cochair positions. There was no inherent accountability since committee responsibilities were distinctly separate from officers' personal responsibilities. This policy eliminated the old structure by creating three new 'Director' positions who chair their respectively named committees by default.</p>	
153		
154		
155		
156		
157		

42 Policy on Canvas Roles

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 03/21/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Chapter Development
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☐ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	1
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
5.0	2.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

This policy clearly defines role assignments within our Canvas course for our advisors, our president and vice president, other elected officers, appointed officers, general members, faculty members, and alumni.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

A few months after the Canvas-based points system was in place, it became clear that Canvas roles needed to be assigned formally for a few reasons. Firstly, at that time, there were fourteen officers in total. Some of them had TA roles; others had teacher roles; and the rest had student roles. Canvas only tracks points for those in student roles, so it makes sense to standardize who is and is not a student on Canvas. Secondly, when candidate elections came around, it was clear that the Chapter needed to standardize its Canvas roles, because the officers who were students could vote via the Canvas survey, whereas all the officers were asked to vote in person at one of the regular meetings. This created a bit of a mess and would not have been an issue if roles had been standardized.

When the Chapter policies defined the current two-tiered elected vs. appointed officer system, it became clear that only elected officers should have non-student roles on Canvas, as that would

eliminate the issues of duplicate votes during elections since only elected officers are required to attend Executive Board meetings; it would also provide a clear distinction between those who Canvas does and does not track points for.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

This policy was developed by President Nick Divilbiss with input from the Executive Board.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

One officer wrote the policy and all the officers voted to adopt the policy. No cost was incurred.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

N/A

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

The Canvas Roles Policy successfully solved the problems that it was meant to solve. It eliminated duplicate ballots during elections, and it standardized the positions for which our points system actively tracks membership status. The policy is posted on our Canvas policies page which is accessible to all general members.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 127:

2024-03-21

POLICY ON CANVAS ROLES

TBP | KS G

1

EFFECTIVE DATE

2

This policy shall become effective at 12:00 AM on May 1st, 2024.

3

4

SUPERSESION

5

6

This is the first version of the Policy on Canvas Roles.

7

8

SCHEDULE OF CANVAS ROLES

9

10

Position	Canvas Role
Advisor	Teacher
President	Teacher
Vice President	Teacher
Elected officer	TA
Appointed officer	Student
General member	Student
Faculty member	Observer
Alumni	Observer

11

12

COMMENTARY ON CANVAS ROLES

13

14

A few months after the points system was in place, it became clear that Canvas roles needed to

15

be assigned formally for a few reasons. Firstly, at that time, there were fourteen officers in total.

16

Some of them had TA roles; others had teacher roles; and the rest had student roles. Canvas

17

only tracks points for those in student roles, so it makes sense to standardize who is and is not a

18

student on Canvas. Secondly, when candidate elections came around, it was clear that the

19

Chapter needed to standardize its Canvas roles, because the officers who were students could

20

vote via the Canvas survey, whereas all the officers were asked to vote in person at one of the

21

regular meetings. This created a bit of a mess and would not have been an issue if roles had

22

been standardized.

23

24

When the Chapter policies defined the current two-tiered elected vs. appointed officer system, it

25

became clear that only elected officers should have non-student roles on Canvas, as that would

26

eliminate the issues of duplicate votes during elections since only elected officers are required to

27

attend Executive Board meetings; it would also provide a clear distinction between those who

28

Canvas does and does not track points for.

29

30

COMMENTARY ON OBSERVER ROLES

31

32

Faculty members shall be added as observers, since this prevents them from receiving

33

notifications for every assignment in the course. If possible, alumni members should be added as

34

observers for the same reason.

43 Policy on Points System & Regalia

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 03/21/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Chapter Development
 - ☒ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☒ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	3
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
4.0	1.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

This six-page policy redefines the Kansas Gamma Chapter points system as well as eligibility standards for Tau Beta Pi regalia.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

The Kansas Gamma points system intends to provide a long-term solution to the issue of low general member participation in chapter events and operations by incentivizing active membership. The system is not intended as a means of forcing members to participate. The system is not intended as a punishment for low participation. It is meant to incentivize participation and to protect the symbolic value of Tau Beta Pi regalia so that it will represent distinguished scholarship, exemplary character, and dedication to the success of the Kansas Gamma Chapter in the pursuit of its mission. Regalia is a reward granted at the chapter's discretion. Students understand that professors do not grant A's in exchange for minimal effort. Similarly, the Chapter will not allow its members to wear regalia in exchange for completing only their candidacy requirements. Members should recall that during their initiation ceremony they each took an oath to heartily perform their duties both to their chapter and to Tau Beta Pi, and to preserve the continuity of their chapter, so that future students may be honored just the same. Ergo, the points system purely incentivizes members to uphold their oath.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

The policy was authored by President Divilbiss with input from the executive board. It was adopted unanimously by vote of the executive board.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

N/A.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

The points system was difficult to design as it had to be equitable for all, yet restrictive enough to accomplish its objectives.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

The policy is a good improvement over the first edition as all of the commentary was shifted to the final pages instead of being interwoven into the provisions. Another minor change was the addition of signature socials and chapter banquets into the initiation ceremonies category. The updated policy was well received.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 128: Page 1 of 6

2024-03-21	POLICY ON POINTS SYSTEM & REGALIA	TBP KS G
1	EFFECTIVE DATE	
2		
3	This policy shall become effective at 12:00 AM on March 22 nd , 2024.	
4		
5	SUPERSESION	
6		
7	This policy hereby revokes and replaces the Kansas Gamma Chapter's "Policy on Points System, Membership Status, & Regalia" dated March 3 rd , 2023.	
8		
9		
10	MEMBERSHIP STATUSES	
11		
12	The points system shall divide the Chapter's membership into three tiers:	
13		
14	1. Inactive members	
15	2. Active members	
16	3. Outstanding members	
17		
18	Each member's eligibility for regalia shall be assigned based on their membership status at the	
19	time at which they apply for regalia during their graduation semester. The statuses shall also be	
20	used to track the Chapter's constitutionally defined active membership for the purpose of chapter-	
21	wide voting on matters such as the ratification of Constitution ballots, amendments to the Bylaws,	
22	candidate and officer elections, or any other matters which must be voted upon by the Chapter's	
23	active membership per the Tau Beta Pi Constitution. For constitutional purposes, outstanding	
24	members shall be considered 'active' members.	
25		
26	ADMINISTRATION	
27		
28	The points system shall be administered via the Chapter's Canvas course. A custom grading	
29	scheme shall automatically assign membership statuses based on each member's total score out	
30	of 100% in the Canvas gradebook. Scores shall be calculated cumulatively across all periods	
31	during which the member has a student role in the Canvas course. Canvas roles shall be assigned	
32	in accordance with Chapter policies.	
33		
34	GRANTING & TRACKING POINTS	
35		
36	Points shall be granted via Canvas assignments including quizzes and graded surveys.	
37	Assignment groups shall be weighted as described herein. Attendance records from in-person	
38	events shall be maintained and made readily available in accordance with Chapter policies.	
39	Members shall be assigned full credit for an attendance-based Canvas assignment if they were	
40	present at its respective event and zero credit if they were absent. 'Graded surveys' are	
41	automatically graded by Canvas, and members shall receive full credit for each graded survey	
42	upon completion.	
43		
44		

Figure 129: Page 2 of 6

45	CUSTOM GRADING SCHEME		
46			
47	Membership statuses shall be automatically assigned based on members' total Canvas course		
48	gradebook scores, and shall be defined as follows, with 'X' signifying a member's total gradebook		
49	score:		
50	00.00% ≤ X < 33.33%	=	Inactive
51	33.33% ≤ X < 66.66%	=	Active
52	66.66% ≤ X	=	Outstanding
53			
54	GRADE WEIGHTING		
55			
56	To achieve both goals set forth in the commentary, group weights shall be set as follows:		
57			
58	Initiations, signature socials, & chapter banquets		20%
59	Engineering Futures seminars		20%
60	Community service events		40%
61	Executive meetings		10%
62	Other events		20%
63	Questionnaires		10%
64	Candidate elections & officer elections		20%
65	<u>Constitution ballot ratifications</u>		<u>10%</u>
66	Total		150%
67			
68	ELIGIBILITY FOR REGALIA		
69			
70	Headquarters has been instructed to restrict purchases so that regalia may only be purchased by		
71	or through the chapter. Access to regalia is the primary reward governed by the points system		
72	and shall be determined by membership status during each member's graduation semester.		
73			
74	Inactive members shall be eligible for no rewards and shall not be permitted to purchase or wear		
75	any Tau Beta Pi regalia. Active members may wear graduation tassels and honor cords, which		
76	they may purchase from the chapter. Outstanding members shall receive free honor cords from		
77	the chapter and may also purchase tassels from the chapter. Only active or outstanding members		
78	who have served or are serving as chapter officers shall be eligible to wear stoles, which may be		
79	purchased from the chapter.		
80			
81	REGALIA PURCHASES, REQUESTS, & DISTRIBUTIONS		
82			
83	The chapter shall maintain a reasonable stock of cords to be granted to or purchased by		
84	outstanding or active members, respectively. The chapter does not stock stoles or tassels, and		
85	requests for these items shall be made at the beginning of the semester of graduation. Every		
86	request shall be accompanied by a full non-refundable payment, and the chapter shall not order		
87	stoles or tassels until the requestor has paid in full. No regalia will be distributed before the first		

Figure 130: Page 3 of 6

2024-03-21	POLICY ON POINTS SYSTEM & REGALIA	TBP KS G
88	day of the last two full weeks of graduation semesters. Either the Membership & Regalia	
89	Committee or its advisor shall collect payments, issue receipts, and distribute regalia.	
90		
91	REGALIA REFUNDS	
92		
93	Should an active or outstanding member place a regalia order and then finish their graduation	
94	semester with inactive status, they will not be eligible to receive said regalia. They will not be	
95	eligible for a refund, for the chapter purchased regalia, per their request, in exchange for the	
96	consideration that said member would fund the regalia order and would also maintain at least	
97	active member status for the rest of their graduation semester.	
98		
99	Time is of the essence with respect to order requests. Should a member make an order request	
100	for a stole or tassel after than the eighth week of their semester of graduation, they will not be	
101	eligible for a refund if their ordered regalia does not arrive before their graduation ceremony. The	
102	chapter will exert reasonable effort in delivering to them any regalia which arrives after graduation.	
103		
104	The chapter will refund the cost of any regalia ordered during or prior to the eighth week of a	
105	member's graduation semester that is not delivered to the chapter before their graduation	
106	ceremony.	
107		
108	QUESTIONS & CONCERNS	
109		
110	Any member with concerns or questions about the points system shall first contact the chapter	
111	president to seek answers or resolutions. If they are unable to reach the president, or to find a	
112	resolution with the president, then they shall contact the chapter's chief advisor.	

Figure 131: Page 4 of 6

2024-03-21

POLICY ON POINTS SYSTEM & REGALIA

TBP | KS G

COMMENTARY ON PURPOSE

PURPOSE: The Kansas Gamma points system intends to provide a long-term solution to the issue of low general member participation in chapter events and operations by incentivizing active membership. The system is not intended as a means of forcing members to participate. The system is not intended as a punishment for low participation. It is meant to incentivize participation and to protect the symbolic value of Tau Beta Pi regalia so that it will represent distinguished scholarship, exemplary character, and dedication to the success of the Kansas Gamma Chapter in the pursuit of its mission. Regalia is a reward granted at the chapter's discretion. Students understand that professors do not grant A's in exchange for minimal effort. Similarly, the Chapter will not allow its members to wear regalia in exchange for completing only their candidacy requirements. Members should recall that during their initiation ceremony they each took an oath to heartily perform their duties both to their chapter and to Tau Beta Pi, and to preserve the continuity of their chapter, so that future students may be honored just the same. Ergo, the points system purely incentivizes members to uphold their oath.

COMMENTARY ON WEIGHTED ASSIGNMENT GROUPS

In the Chapter's Canvas course, points-based assignments are subdivided into individual weighted categories, or *assignment groups*, for two reasons: Firstly, for the Chapter to maintain an active appearance, it is imperative that members physically participate in at least one chapter event per semester, on average, to maintain active status. Secondly, active participation in certain events is paramount to fulfilling both the Chapter's objectives and its obligations to the Tau Beta Pi Association. Therefore, Canvas assignments are grouped and weighted as defined herein based on their importance regarding the Chapter's mission. Two front-of-mind goals guided the selection of group weights:

1. The points system must allow inactive members to work their way up to active status.
2. The system must not allow one to gain points too easily, as that could lead to high initial participation followed by little to no participation.

The importance of the first goal is that the points system exists to incentivize every member's participation, so all inactive members must have the opportunity to elevate their status. Otherwise, the points system will fail to incentivize their participation. The importance of the second goal is that the points system must not let members stock up on points too easily, because then, they won't be incentivized to participate during their final semesters, when they have earned enough points to withdraw without consequence like a bear entering hibernation.

COMMENTARY ON SELECTION OF GROUP WEIGHTS

- Initiation ceremonies / signature socials / chapter banquets and community service events are heavily weighted because it is vital for members to attend them. Without members present, candidates will continue to form subconscious beliefs that these events are purely part of the initiation process, and that general members need not attend.

Figure 132: Page 5 of 6

2024-03-21

POLICY ON POINTS SYSTEM & REGALIA

TBP | KS G

- Engineering futures has its own category because it is a beneficial professional development opportunity and because the chapter must meet attendance requirements per the Association's policies.
- Elections and Constitution ratifications are standalone categories because the chapter is constitutionally required to have its active membership vote on those matters.
- The executive meetings category incentivizes all members to attend executive meetings, but primarily exists to recognize the dedication of appointed officers who regularly attend meetings.
- Other events and questionnaires serve as catch-all categories in which social events and miscellaneous Canvas surveys fall. Many events will be added to the other events category each semester, so it is unlikely for members to score very highly in it. Canvas surveys require zero physical effort and can be completed anywhere, so it is assumed that members wishing to maintain active or outstanding status will complete all surveys.

COMMENTARY ON INHERENT FLEXIBILITY OF THE POINTS SYSTEM

Categories are weighted by importance and allow members the flexibility to decide how they want to earn their desired course grade. A few examples of this flexibility are provided below.

Example 1 - A member who wishes to be active may complete all Canvas surveys in the questionnaire category, vote on all candidate elections in their respective category, and attend only initiation ceremonies as their in-person events.

Example 2 - A member wanting to graduate with outstanding membership status may choose to attend all executive meetings, vote on all Canvas surveys, and attend one community service event per semester as well as Engineering Futures.

It is up to each member to decide what status they wish to achieve and how they plan to earn their desired grade. Each member is a high-achieving engineering student capable of determining a winning strategy.

Canvas scores are calculated out of 100%, which may be aptly thought of as 100 percentage points. During periods when constitutional ballots are cast, members may score as many as 150 percentage points throughout their tenure (they only need 66.66 points to achieve outstanding status). If no said ballots are cast, then members may score as many as 140 percentage points during the same period. 140 points is more than double the average score a member would need to achieve by their final semester to graduate as outstanding. Therefore, a member who is part of the Chapter for four full semesters and does not participate at all during their first two full semesters could still become an outstanding member by graduation if they work extremely hard and fully participate for two semesters.

Conversely, if the same member had a perfect participation rate over their first two full semesters, then they could 'retire' over the second two semesters. However, said member's contributions towards improving chapter culture over their first two semesters would likely be so significant that

44 Policy on Mission & Purpose

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 03/21/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Chapter Development
 - ☒ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☒ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☐ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
5.0	2.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

This policy codifies both shortened and full versions of the Kansas Gamma Chapter's mission statement and makes our purpose clear with respect to the local community and general student body. The shortened version is as follows: "The mission of the Kansas Gamma Chapter is to continuously improve the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering and the Manhattan community." The full version is provided in the next paragraph, and there is also a note in the policy specifically stating that our chapter shares the Association's mission as well.

Full version: "The mission of the Kansas Gamma Chapter is to work towards continuous improvement of:

- 1. The prestige of K-State engineers by building a culture of honor and dedication in the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering.
- 2. The Manhattan community through acts of service.
- 3. Student and faculty life in the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering by creating connections that last beyond graduation."

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

This policy exists to clearly define the local mission of the Kansas Gamma Chapter with respect

to its place in the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering and the Manhattan community. For many years, our chapter had an identity crisis. Our chapter had no definitive purpose, which caused it to languish as its officers did not know how to properly promote it. The Kansas Gamma Chapter has been a service-based organization since its inception, but one of the most popular reasons for failing to promote the chapter was the misconception that it was a selective organization serving only its own members. Facts do not support that conclusion. This policy provides chapter leadership with a clear and concise mission statement which they can proudly promote throughout the College and the community.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

After multiple years as an officer and much research into the chapter's historical struggles, President Nick Divilbiss determined that it was necessary to define a mission statement for the chapter so that future officers would have clear direction on why the chapter is important to all K-State engineering students. Treasurer Michael Velasquez took on the task of authoring the new statements based on the chapter's values and current long-term goals. Velasquez provided multiple drafts during an officer meeting from which the minutes are attached hereto. Divilbiss took the drafts along with the changes proposed during said meeting and wrote the new statements into policy format. This policy was then approved by the Executive Board and adopted at the next meeting.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

No cost was incurred during this project; Divilbiss and Velasquez completed most of the work on this project, and the rest of the officers and a few advisors provided helpful input during the group discussions.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

It was difficult to introspectively decide what is most important for the chapter both in the long- and short-term.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

A MAJOR SUCCESS: For the first time that we know of the chapter has a definitive purpose. Before passing this policy, not even our chief advisor could articulate the reasons why our chapter is meaningful to K-State. After passing this policy, even our newest members know good and well that the mission of the Kansas Gamma Chapter is to continuously improve the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering and the Manhattan community, as well as to mark in a fitting manner those who confer honor upon Kansas State University by distinguished scholarship and exemplary character or by their attainments in engineering.

From day one, our chapter has been "more of a service organization," as stated by our 1973 final petition. Over the years, our purpose didn't change, but to those who weren't aware of our history, it became unclear. The biggest impact of this policy is that future officers can now state with confidence that our chapter's local purpose is to improve (a) the K-State engineering experience for ALL STUDENTS and (b) the Manhattan community for ALL PEOPLE. Therefore, future officers need not shy away from promoting the organization due to concerns that it is merely a self-serving entity. Adoption of this policy will likely go down as the most impactful, most important accomplishment of this school year. -Divilbiss

3. Additional Attachments

Figure 133: Policy on Mission & Purpose

2024-03-21	POLICY ON MISSION & PURPOSE	TBP KS G
1	EFFECTIVE DATE	
2		
3	This policy shall become effective at 12:00 AM on May 1 st , 2024.	
4		
5	SUPERSESSION	
6		
7	This is the first Policy on Mission & Purpose.	
8		
9	MISSION OF THE KANSAS GAMMA CHAPTER	
10		
11	SHORT VERSION: <i>"The mission of the Kansas Gamma Chapter is to continuously improve the</i>	
12	<i>Carl R. Ice College of Engineering and the Manhattan community."</i>	
13		
14	FULL VERSION: The mission of the Kansas Gamma Chapter is to work towards continuous	
15	improvement of:	
16	1. The prestige of K-State engineers by building a culture of honor and dedication in the	
17	Carl R. Ice College of Engineering.	
18	2. The Manhattan community through acts of service.	
19	3. Student and faculty life in the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering by creating connections	
20	that last beyond graduation.	
21		
22	NOTE: The Chapter also shares the mission of the Tau Beta Pi Association.	
23		
24	COMMENTARY ON PURPOSE AND HISTORY	
25		
26	PURPOSE: This policy exists to clearly define the local mission of the Kansas Gamma Chapter	
27	with respect to its place in the College of Engineering and the Manhattan community.	
28		
29	BACKGROUND: For many years, the chapter had an identity crisis. The chapter had no definitive	
30	purpose, which caused it to languish as its officers did not know how to properly promote it. The	
31	Kansas Gamma Chapter has been a service-based organization since its inception, but one of	
32	the most popular reasons for failing to promote the chapter was the misconception that it was a	
33	selective organization serving only its own members. Facts do not support that conclusion. This	
34	policy provides chapter leadership with a clear and concise mission statement which they can	
35	proudly promote throughout the College and the community.	

Figure 134: Minutes from discussion of new statement



Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society – Kansas Gamma Chapter
Spring 2024, Week 8 Executive Meeting
4:00 pm, March 6th, 2024
DUR 1061

AGENDA

- I. **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL @ 16:00**
- II. **AGENDA APPROVAL – M. Velasquez motioned 1st, B. Imig seconded, motion approved unanimously.**
- III. **MINUTES APPROVAL – M. Velasquez motioned 1st, C. Johnson seconded, motion approved unanimously.**
- IV. **REPORTS (2 minutes per speaker)**
 - Awards: It appears through Canvas that there are 5 people working on posters now. A crystal award will be ordered for UCoY.
 - Events: Joseph P. Blackford will be our facilitator this semester, with P. Snider being a co-facilitator. We await discussion from Blackford on what modules to choose. Professor Wanklyn will be approached about the extra credit situation for our session. KDoT is now aware of our scheduled date for our next Highway-Clean-Up event. D. Rizzo will gather supplies and documents during the week we return from spring break. The Bent decoration went well and we're hearing feedback about the massive pile of balloons, so people are noticing the bent. Iowa State's Pi-Day Marathon (3.14 miles) inspired our proposal to the CoE to do a similar event. H. Bash is looking towards late April, before "dead" week, to host the event and will possibly be collaborating with the Manhattan Running Company. Thought about the winners of the marathon getting to pie professors is being explored.
 - Charters: Mark Stevenson picked up our charter certificates yesterday. He plans to have them treated and ready before our initiation. We could then show them off during the banquet.
 - D9 Conf: N. Divilbiss, E. Pine, and Rizzo met many new people and caught up with others from our district. They learned more about district and chapter operations. Recent teasing of KU has been inspired by conference
 - Formal: We now will have an instructional session from Latin Dance Club.
 - History: No news
 - Initiation: We had 33 people at the signature social. Many people stuck around all the way through. There was a lot of socializing and candidates met many people and filled out their books.
 - Monuments: For now, we only see ourselves cleaning the Sigma Tau pyramid and cleaning up the surrounding landscaping. We await word from KSU staff.
 - Open House: We've officially applied for open house. The student organization display will showcase our history. Cornhole has been ordered and we await its arrival. Fidget spinners will be made available for kids.
 - Pts. System: Divilbiss had to reiterate to some members that there are not penalties for not being at executive meetings, but rather a missed opportunity to score points. The average grade is now 29.5%.
 - Publicity: G. McLeod will be posting a "throwback Thursday" item later tonight. There will be an International Women's Day post tomorrow. ESC has followed through and reposted our pictures on their stories and posted our flyer on their feed.
 - Recruiting: All candidates have turned in their dues, signature books, and catalog cards, but about half still need to do a service project, which they will have their chance on March 24th. M. VanderLeest is still looking over orientation slides and considering improvements.
 - Treasury: A Treasurer's report was sent out. Chassy has recently given us an updated account statement.
- V. **DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR (5 minutes per speaker)**
- VI. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - Kansas Gamma's Pi Day Across the USA → GroupMe & Distribution of Pi Day shirts
 - Shirts were handed out. Everyone was checked if they are on the GroupMe group chat. March 14th
 - Defining our chapter's purpose & mission: Why does this chapter exist?
 - Velasquez wrote three drafts that all have the same tone and keywords. There was much discussion over it. We considered how the word "discipline" might be realized through our actions, but it ended being replaced with dedication. M. Culbertson mentioned that our point system incentivizes discipline. B. Thimmesch suggested that we replace "KSU" with "K-State" to align ourselves with the short-hand reference our university is adopting in response to Kennesaw State University's attempt to trademark "KSU". Other adjustments to key phrases were the modification to include phrases "acts of service" and "by creating connections". We re-ordered the list of mission action items to reflect our priorities, those being in order from greatest to least:

45 Painting TBP Cornhole Boards

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 03/22/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	3
Members	1
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
3.0	9.0

2. Project Evaluation

- i. **General Description**

Member Billy Imig came up with the idea to purchase cornhole boards and paint bents on them so that the holes in the boards coincide with the holes at the top of the bents.
- ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

The purpose of the project was to create a kid-friendly game for Engineering Open House as well as an additional activity for the new Engineering Formal. It also served as a collaboration between members as they worked towards a common goal, thus invoking a sense of comradeship. The TBP Image at our College of Engineering is also growing, as the bent has now become mobile and will be seen at events through the year, thus spreading recognition for KS-G and TBP.
- iii. **Organization and Administration**

Officer Brandon Thimmesch and Member Billy Imig ordered the boards, and Events Director Dalton Rizzo purchased the painting supplies from Sherwin Williams. Thimmesch, Imig, and President Divilbiss painted the boards over the weekend of March 19th.
- iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

The costs were part of the Paint & Popsicle Part expenses. Four people took part in the process as previously mentioned.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

Engineering Student Council picked up the boards by mistake when they arrived by mail, so that led to confusion and gave us less time to paint the boards. We didn't prepare the laminated surfaces for paint adhesion as well as we should have, which led to peeling paint when we pulled off the masking tape. The fix for that issue was painstakingly touching up every tape line with a fine detail brush. That process took many hours.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

The project has been overly successful. Not only were the boards used during both open house and the formal, but they also serve as additional bents in the atrium drawing even more attention to the area near our bent monument. The boards will be used at many chapter social events in the future, so the investment was worthwhile.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 135: Imig and Thimmesch prepping for paint



Figure 136: Painting the bents

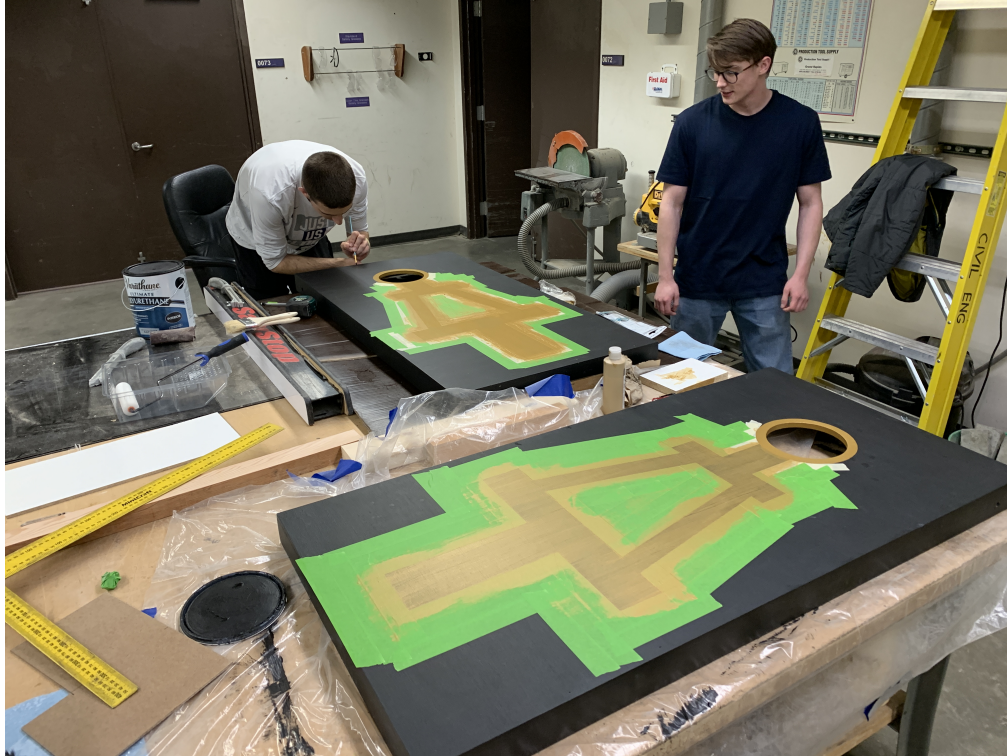


Figure 137: Finished product

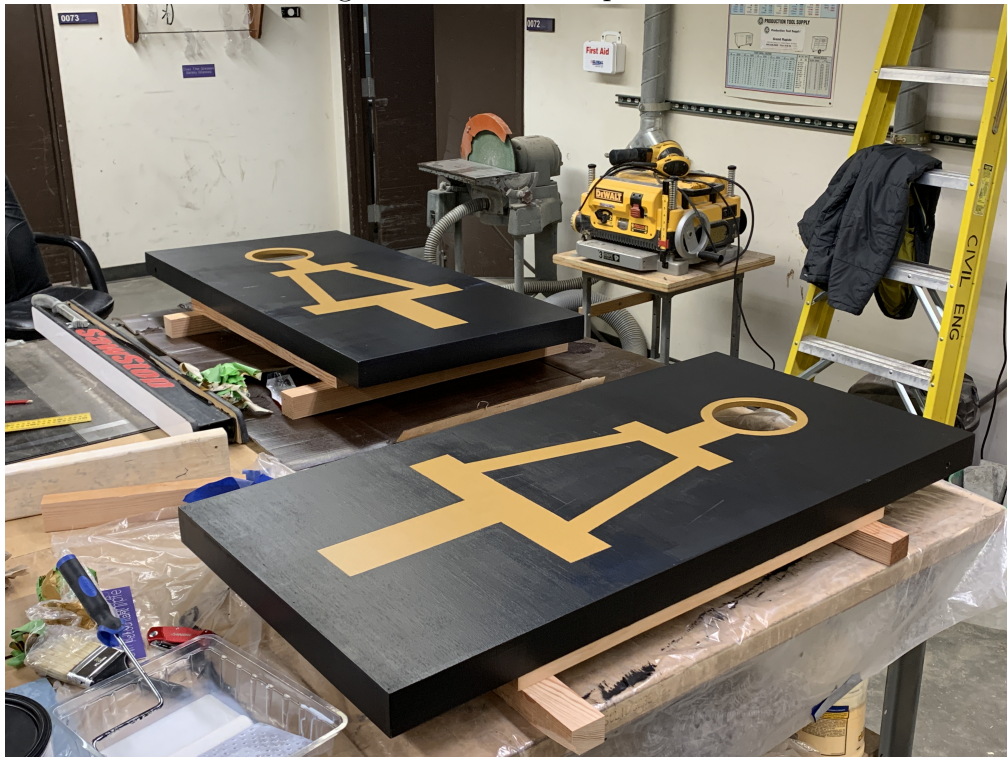


Figure 138: Two new bents in the atrium



46 Paint & Popsicle Party

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 03/22/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☐ Custom
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Students	1
Officers	5
Members	3
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
2.0	6.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

The Chapter hosted a spring engineering formal for all student at the College of Engineering to attend and a large aspect of the formal was our themed decorations. To fit the Manhattan NYC theme of the formal, the engineering formal committee decided to create large 8-ft tall facades that mimic skyscrapers. Officer Culbertson of the formal committee started a working relationship with the K-State Theatre Department and contracted them to create the skyscraper facades out of MDF. Culbertson created AutoCAD drawings of the skyscrapers which could be used by the Theatre Department's CNC mill to craft the shape of the skyscrapers out of wood. After negotiations with the Theatre Department, the committee took responsibility for painting the facades so the overall cost for them would be less. Since the six facades required many coats, it was expected that the more hands involved, the quicker the job would be finished. Events Director Rizzo planned a chapter social where attendees would assist in the labor and receive frozen fruit creamsicles as reward. During the event, street signs and newspaper stands would also be crafted and painted. Two members also worked on painting our TBP Cornhole Boards that evening.

ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

In the past, we've experienced improved camaraderie amongst our members when they have a common task to accomplish. This event allowed for that opportunity as members had busy hands, but plenty of space to chatter. The task at hand also came to fruition as members would see the facades, street signs, newspaper stands, and cornhole boards at the coming engineering formal, thus giving them a sense of accomplishment and belonging towards our chapter.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

Director Rizzo consulted with fellow officers that were going to be involved with the event, as well as examined which weekday would work best according to a member availability survey distributed earlier in the semester. With time before the formal being short, the best date was a Friday, on a late afternoon. It was hopeful that most members wouldn't have obligations on a Friday afternoon and that their course schedules would be relatively free. A space with enough area to fit the decorations to be crafted was needed, so using recommendations from his fellow officers, Director Rizzo reached out to the Civil Engineering Department's Research Technologist, Clifford Temple, who graciously offered us access to his department's workshop, which included sawhorses, adequate space, woodshop equipment, and a paint hood. In return, we offered him the painting plastic we were going to use and invited him to the formal. Director Rizzo made multiple trips to Walmart and the Sherwin-Williams store in town for paint, equipment, and creamsicles. On the day of the event, all the necessary material was ready and transported to the workshop. Earlier in the day, Officer Culbertson and Director Rizzo met student workers from the Theatre Department as they transported the facades to the workshop. While en route, President Divilbiss bought ice for Director Rizzo's cooler to keep the creamsicles frozen. Most members present knew the job to be done and quickly started work, while also directing unaware members on what to do. The facades' MDF soaked up much paint and all the work couldn't be accomplished that evening, although President Divilbiss stayed into the early morning hours to get as much done as he could. Officer Culbertson and Director Rizzo had to return with more paint the following Sunday to finish the job, which took them another 12 hours. A couple members dropped in to assist, along with a non-member friend of Officer Culbertson.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$158.24

v. **Cost Breakdown**

\$115.32 = paint & supplies from Sherwin-Williams. \$48.92 = supplies from Walmart. Not enough members were present for the amount of work that needed to be done. Although this could be because we vastly underestimated the time requirement.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

The overall cost ended being more than the expense of having the Theatre Department paint facades. The labor commitment was more than expected, so it took up much of Officer Culbertson's, Director Rizzo's, and President Divilbiss's weekend. There was little turnout from general members, and many attendees only stayed and work for an hour or two at most. We ended up losing the crafted street signs because Engineering Student Council threw them in the garbage by mistake.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

SUCCESS: Although the turnout from general members was disappointing and we lost the street signs, the rest of the decor and cornhole boards, specifically the facades, looked excellent.

Those working on the cornhole boards joined the event since they needed the supplies we had purchased; their involvement also improved the communal atmosphere. The facades can be seen elegantly displayed in a photo attachment. Survey results that asked about the level of immersion that attendees of the formal experienced stated immersion was high, which may be attributed partly to the well-crafted facades throughout the ballroom, thus the facades were convincing, and our paintjob was adequate. The event opened the door to a new contact and resource, Clifford Temple and his workshop, which has many useful aspects we may need in the future. The members who were involved strongly bonded as their dedicated efforts in organizing the formal had been physically realized and they shared the pain of odd and time-consuming labor. Overall, the event aided in the crafting of decorations for the formal and begat useful knowledge and contacts. If we are to plan something similar as auxiliary to the next iteration of the formal, we'll have to involve light-work that can be done cheaply and quickly, as well as find another way to motivate member attendance. The night prior to the formal, ESC was hosting an event. Since we use the same room for storage, while cleaning up and putting away their stuff, they perceived our street-signs as trash, which was an honest mistake since they were hidden in a cardboard box. ESC President and KS-G member Morgan Woodsmall worked quickly to recover from the mistake and with help from her officers produced replacement signs that exceeded our expectations and turned out much nicer than the signs we had originally created.

3. Additional Attachments

Figure 139: Treasurer Velasquez and Officer Culbertson begin painting the first building



Figure 140: Director Rizzo sizing up the sign and shaking the paint



Figure 141: A realistic shade of green on the street signs sitting under the vent hood



Figure 142: Officer Culbertson intricately painting the window corners



Figure 143: The final product - skyscraper facades on extravagant display



47 2024 K-State Engineering Formal Hosted by Kansas Gamma

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 03/29/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☒ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Students	246
Officers	6
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
60.0	4.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

At the 2024 Atlanta National Convention, President Divilbiss and Events Director Rizzo were made aware of the idea of hosting an engineering formal after many chapters talked about their experience with such during chapter development meetings and NICE sessions. California Epsilon is a notable champion of the idea and hosts exceedingly successful formals at their college every year. After Divilbiss and Rizzo returned from Convention with the idea of hosting an Engineering Formal and presented it to the officer board, it was set into motion through a board vote with a chosen date of March 29, 2023. Kansas Gamma is not new to the idea of hosting a formal, since our Chapter hosted formals from its birth until the 1990s, so this year's officers were revitalizing the old concept of an engineering formal at K-State. The officer board agreed that the formal would be inclusive and extravagant for all engineering students, a guest of their choosing, and TBP faculty. This would compensate for those that are not in a Greek house and have no formal dance to attend, which is a majority of engineering students. This formal included entertaining activities, a professional DJ, Hors d'oeuvres, and extensive decor. A committee was created that included Rizzo as chair, with Membership Director Pine,

Officer Culbertson, and Treasurer Velasquez as members. They began meeting shortly after the committee was created and met weekly until the day of the formal, including over winter break, for a total of 15 meetings.

ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

One of the main objectives of the formal is to create an ever-lasting image for Kansas Gamma at K-State by hosting an annual event that all engineering students eagerly anticipate., Tau Beta Pi's Engineering Formal. This aligns with our chapter's own mission of improving the experience for all students at the K-State College of Engineering, as we provide a unique experience that students will reminisce about once they graduate. The event acts as a respite from the laborious endeavor of attending engineering school, yet through the purposeful invitation of all engineering students it honors the endeavor by giving engineering students their own evening formal to relish in. The organization of the formal gives TBP members the chance to collaborate on a celebration that extends beyond just the chapter and has meaning to all of the College of Engineering. Those on the formal committee share the challenge of organizing an event larger than themselves and the chapter, thus experiencing unique and memorable camaraderie along the way. The committee often called upon general members for assistance, which included set-up then clean-up of the ballroom, activity management, and decoration preparation, so they shared a portion of the accomplishment and camaraderie.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

The committee stored all the documentation over a Microsoft Teams channel, which also acted as a forum for communication outside of meetings. The weekly meetings were often two-hours-long and hosted substantial information and objectives, so each member had an equal share of delegated work. All meetings had agendas and minutes were created shortly after from notes taken during meetings. The committee had to keep the executive board aware of the situation in short reports given verbally at executive meetings. The executive board also approved an allocation of chapter funds for the event, but additional funding had to be requested from the college, which they provided. Media Director Grace McLeod assisted by creating promotional flyers to be posted on our social media and the Engineering Hall TVs. The committee also crafted announcements for McLeod to submit to the Engineering Weekly Newsletter. A large part of decor came from a contract with the University's Theatre Department, which created the large wooden facades that mimicked skyscrapers. Culbertson took the lead on this initiative and handled all arrangements with Theatre Dept. We also had assistance from ESC in a few matters, including additional marketing, manpower, and material support. Leading to the event, ESC decided to host their E-Week so that our event was its culmination, and they continually promoted our event by sharing flyers. The committee also regularly communicated, including physical meetings, with the KSU Union about arrangements for the ballroom reservation. They provided many resources and were distinctly supportive. Contracts for food, photography, and the professional DJ were secured early. For the day of the event, announcements and an assignment was posted for Kansas Gamma members that asked for their help in setting up the ballroom and many members assisted. The officer board was also petitioned for duty during the formal. The ballroom was cleaned to the Union's satisfaction.

iv. **In Conjunction With**

ESC, Theatre Department, KSUPD, K-State Union

v. **Total Cost**

\$3661.99

vi. **Cost Breakdown**

BUDGET SPREADSHEET ATTACHED

vii. **Special Problems Encountered**

ESC accidentally discarded street signs but replaced them. Incorrect amount of decorative wallpaper was ordered so we were short. The wasn't enough desirable food for everyone, but a timed schedule of delivery would've helped. A majority of material expenses have narrow usage in the future. Initial lack of support from college disguised by skepticism. College's marketing director embargoed our flyers for a month. Poorly scheduled reservation date due to lack of options. Event on Easter weekend.

viii. **Overall Evaluation**

MAJOR SUCCESS: The overall attendance rate of 77.62%, compared to those who registered. Registration list and percentages are attached. An Instagram collaboration with the college's account significantly boosted the number of followers and overall image of KS-G & TBP. The budget closed with a surplus for the Chapter, and is well documented, so we'll have a stronger request to the college for the next iteration. The collaborations with the K-State Union, ESC, and the Theatre Department were exceptionally fruitful. Culbertson cultivated a strong relationship with the Theatre Department, so we'll have them as a future resource. Rizzo began an exceptional working relationship with the Union, namely their Assistant Director of Retail, who supported us in other events further in the semester and will be an insightful consultant. ESC and KS-G have reached a symbiotic relationship that will be beneficial for years to come. The general student body expects the formal to be an annual event, so the event had a renown and impactful inauguration. The event exceeded expectations and become a memorable event that is referenced by peers continually. The photographer that was contracted captured 151 pictures of the night and shared the entire OneDrive folder with KS-G. Following the formal, Divilbiss distributed a thank you email to all attendees and gave access to the OneDrive folder. Attendees voiced appreciation for the photos and have shared them on their social media. One attendee said "I just enjoyed the social aspect of the event. It's nice to have engineering events that aren't class. Karaoke is a must have.", in the survey we distributed. The formal committee that organized the event was exceptionally productive despite having only 4 people, and they learned much about the process. Their detailed minutes will support future iterations of the formal. If the next iteration is scheduled on an optimal date, then we expect a significant increase in attendance.

3. **Additional Attachments**

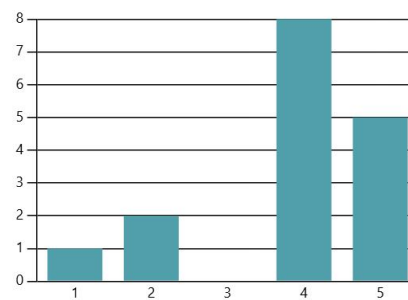
Figure 144: Survey Results

1. How enjoyable was the experience for you? (From low to high as 1 to 5)

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

3.88
Average Rating



2. How well did the decoration immerse you into the "Little Apple" theme?
(Low to high as 1 to 5)

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

3.25
Average Rating

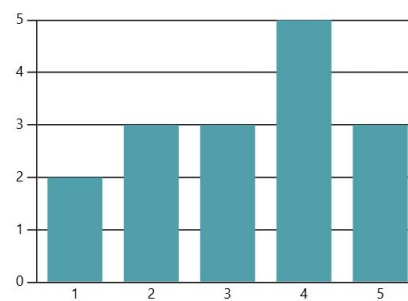


Figure 145: The Budget & Expenses

Funding			Balance	
Source	Amount	Stipulations	Surplus	
College of Engineering	\$3,000.00	Success		\$838.01
Kansas Gamma Formal Allocation	\$1,500.00	None		
Student Governing Association	\$0.00	Educational		
Engineering Student Council	\$0.00	Collaboration		
Total	\$4,500.00			
Expense			Expense	
Charge	Cost	Paid (Y/N)	Type	% of Expense Notes:
Catering (Hy-Vee)	\$625.05	Y	Refreshment	Dean's Office Billed 17.09%
Catapult Mix	\$120.20	Y	Refreshment	Dean's Office Billed 3.45%
Grand Ballroom Fee	\$140.00	Y	Reservation	Dean's Office Billed 3.82%
Projector & Screen	\$20.00	Y	Entertainment	Dean's Office Billed 0.55%
Audio Speaker & Microphone	\$50.00	Y	Entertainment	Dean's Office Billed 1.37%
Television	\$40.00	Y	Reservation	Dean's Office Billed 1.09% CoE Slideshow
Tableclothes	\$90.00	Y	Reservation	Dean's Office Billed 2.46%
Special Room Setup (Late Night) Fee	\$40.00	Y	Reservation	Dean's Office Billed 1.09%
Hilton Garden Inn Red Carpet	\$0.00	Y	Decor	N/A 0.00% Free "rental" courtesy of the Hilton Garden Manager, Brad Everett.
Wallpaper	\$164.85	Y	Decor	Dean's Office Billed 4.56%
Skyline Image	\$26.10	Y	Decor	Reimbursement 0.71% Shutterstock
Orbeez (Water Beads)	\$6.99	Y	Decor	Dean's Office Billed 0.19%
Photograph Backdrop	\$0.00	Y	Decor	0.00% Free by the grace of Theatre Department & Ben Stark
Red Carpet	\$120.00	Y	Decor	Dean's Office Billed 3.28%
Velvet Ropes for Stanchions	\$31.49	Y	Decor	Dean's Office Billed 0.86%
Sherwin-Williams 03/22	\$33.88	Y	Decor	Dean's Office Billed 0.92%
Sherwin-Williams 03/19	\$81.74	Y	Decor	Dean's Office Billed 2.27%
Wal-Mart 03/21	\$256.07	Y	Miscellaneous	Dean's Office Billed 6.99%
Wal-Mart 03/22	\$48.92	Y	Decor	Reimbursement 1.34%
DJ Deposit	\$100.00	Y	Entertainment	Reimbursement 0.00%
DJ Payment	\$375.00	Y	Entertainment	Reimbursement 10.24%
Latin Dance Club	\$0.00	Y	Entertainment	Check 0.00% 6 Instructors also get invited.
Security (BSUPD)	\$435.00	Y	Security	Post-Event, Chapter Billed 11.88% Each officer = \$58/hour, 3.75-hour contract
Photographer	\$50.00	Y	Posterity	Check 1.37% Carter Schaffer, Chief Editor @ The Collegian
Theatre Department Bill (Facades & Lighting)	\$800.00	Y	Decor	21.85%
Total	\$8,061.99			0.00%

Figure 146: Dance floor motion as Tau Beta Pi shines through!



Figure 147: The Formal Committee + Assistants



Figure 148: Member Hajduch & Student in front of Photograph Backdrop that Feature TBP KS-G logo



48 2024 Engineering Open House Display

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 04/06/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Outreach
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☒ University/College
 - ☒ Profession/Engineering
 - ☐ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Members	5
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
0.3	3.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

K-State Engineering hosts an annual Open House where members of the community are invited to come tour our facility and learn about the different student groups and educational opportunities we have to offer. Student organizations are given table space in the atrium and their presenters interact with community members as they peruse the many displays.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

The purpose of our display was not to recruit new members, but instead to inform the general public about Tau Beta Pi and its contributions to the engineering profession and its greater impact on the world we all share; additionally, the event is a means of entertaining children and inspiring their interest towards careers in engineering.

iii. Organization and Administration

Months before the event took place, the officer board began discussing ideas for our displays. It was decided that there would be two displays: a standard table display in the atrium next to our Bent monument; and a children's activity which was our new Tau Beta Pi cornhole set that we located outdoors by the Sigma Tau pyramid. Our recording secretary and one general member took charge of planning the displays. We reused the folding display board that was made earlier in the year for the University Activities Carnivals with the addition of a TV that

played a looping Kansas Gamma history slideshow. The slideshow was also recycled; this time from the Engineering Formal held one week prior.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

The event was 6 hours long and two people manned the table at a time. Usually, one person manned the cornhole boards. There was no cost officially involved in setting up our Open House display. We gave away brochures and business cards, but they were acquired for other purposes, so those expenses are neglected here. One of our members, Billy Imig, lent us his TV to be used for the looping historical slideshow.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

Strong winds began to blow our boards around towards the end of the event. That's a given in Kansas though. Our main display wasn't entertaining for kids, so many of the attendees with children didn't spend much time at our table.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

We received many compliments on our display and we taught many people about our chapter's history as well as the purpose of Tau Beta Pi. Some of the people we talked to have children in engineering school at K-State, and they said that they planned to encourage them to join TBP. Surprisingly, we also connected with many of our alumni to whom we pitched our private LinkedIn alumni group. The most interesting encounter was when an alumnus pointed himself out in a picture of one of our service events from 1975! Excitingly, our US Senator Jerry Moran was also there, so he got to learn about Tau Beta Pi. In the future, our chapter should tailor a display that's more suitable for children, as most people bring their kids, so our table would've seen much more traffic with a kid-focused display instead of a purely informational display. Our Bent monument attracted positive attention as it was decorated extravagantly for the month of March.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 149: (L-to-R) Brandon Thimmesch, Dalton Rizzo, and Nick Divilbiss



49 Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 04/07/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☒ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	4
Members	2
Electees	7

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
1.0	3.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) has a program called Adopt-A-Highway (AAH) where organizations, usually boy scout troops, charity organizations, or Greek Houses, can adopt a 2-mile section of roadway. In exchange for keeping the sides of the roadway clear of trash and debris, KDOT pays a stipend of \$190 for each of three annual clean-ups required of the adopting organization. We simply gather loose trash into bags and collect them, along with larger debris, into piles for KDOT to pick up afterwards.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

This event serves many purposes. We serve the community by keeping our portion of highway clean and raise funds with the State's stipend. It also helps build relationships between members as they accomplish an uncomfortable task then share a meal afterwards and chat about the experience and other topics. For the candidates working towards membership, this is a required event that shows them how service is an integral part of being in Tau Beta Pi and how Kansas Gamma fulfills the society's mission.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

The following is done by the Director of Events & Programs: The local KDOT office in Wamego is informed of our chosen date for cleaning-up and a time for retrieving the safety vests and trash bags is scheduled. The equipment is picked up during the week leading up to the clean-up event. The safety waiver and stipend request documents are printed and completed. The event was posted in an announcement and as an assignment in the points system on our Canvas course, to keep general members aware of its time and date. Now for details concerning the actual event. On the day of the event, members gathered at the engineering hall, signed the waiver, received vests, trash bags, and gloves, then sat in a lecture hall for a safety briefing. Based on the number of attendees, President Divilbiss ordered pizzas to be picked up at 4:00pm, as is typically the time at which the job is done. Director Rizzo discussed expectations and the plan-of-action with the attendees, after they watched a KDOT safety video, then split them into four groups. Each group was given a quadrant of our 2-mile section of US-24, along with a map for direction on their quadrant and parking. The group leaders stayed in contact through the GroupMe app. Group leaders keep count of trash bags tied-off and if any roadkill or chemical dumps were found. If any group finishes first, they move to the quadrant with the most roadside left to clean. After the job was done, President Divilbiss picked up the pizza. The rest of the attendees gathered back at the road sign for a group photo, where officers gathered the supplies. The attendees were then allowed to leave, but the Chapter then hosted a meal in the Leadership (Conference) Room that we have access to, where most attendees stayed for pizza and chatter afterwards. Following the event, the Director of E&P returns the equipment to KDOT, turns in the signed waiver and stipend request, then also emails them photos of the cleanup.

iv. **In Conjunction With**

Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT)

v. **Total Cost**

\$40.0

vi. **Cost Breakdown**

(5) Domino's pizzas = \$41.00. We had (14) attendees, which provided enough hands for the job to be fully completed. We also had enough officers with experience to lead the groups. Two groups finished early and reinforced the remaining two groups.

vii. **Special Problems Encountered**

The SW quadrant continues to take the most time and labor, but for this iteration of the event, there was not as much remaining for the back-up groups to help finish. We do wish more general members would attend this service event, as to act as inspiration to candidates, to strengthen the community between current members, and continually solidify this event as a staple for our Chapter.

viii. **Overall Evaluation**

SUCCESS: Two general members who normally fly under the radar attended the event, so it was delightful to catch up with them. One member used this event to get points for our system and also complete a service activity requirement for their Greek house. The other is a long-time member who has maintained occasional participation in chapter activities, which is duly appreciated, and this was conveyed to him. This event served as a minor exercise in small group leadership for one member, Henry Bash, who is a leader on the rise and has recently been voted into the position of Vice President, so his selection as a group leader was intentional and helped him gain recognition and leadership practice within our Chapter. The group meal

after the event continues to be successful in accomplishing the task of fostering community, as members and candidates shared rewarding pizza, stories from courses, stress over projects, and jovial laughter. This aspect of the event will be emphasized to future officers as an integral part of chapter activity. KDOT was satisfied with the results after viewing our pictures sent in and gathering the garbage piles that we setup for them. In addition to the (36) trash bags tied-off, we found a functional bicycle, a trash can, many bricks, and animal carcasses. This was the last iteration of the event before the end of the academic year, so we are hopeful that a clean roadside will motivate the townsfolk to keep it clean over the summer by not disposing trash onto the roadside. Attendees were gathered at the road sign afterwards for a group picture and a short video on our story. As usual, we brought out the Kansas Gamma banner for the photo, and we used the event as a way to promote the chapter.

3. Additional Attachments

Figure 150: Mile 314!



Figure 151: Spencer Strahm (L) & Travis Leaton (R) opening the Road Crew Working Sign in NW quadrant



Figure 152: KS-G Highway Clean-up Crew



Figure 153: Ironically, we found a trash can for our trash bags!



Figure 154: Woah, that's some clean grass!



50 April Bent Decoration #1

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 04/07/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	3
Members	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
0.5	2.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

At the beginning of every month, Tau Beta Pi members decorate our Bent monument according to the month's corresponding themes and holidays. The holidays and themes we decorated for were Earth Day, Tax Day, National Pets Day, National Robotics Week, and April showers bring...

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

This project helps general engineering students and visitors notice our Bent monument, potentially inspiring them to investigate its purpose. Students that already know of the monument may talk about its decor with those who don't, thus spreading word about the chapter and increasing brand recognition of Tau Beta Pi at K-State. The event also facilitates socialization and comradery between Tau Beta Pi members, nurturing a sense of community within our chapter.

iii. Organization and Administration

A robot was borrowed from the Wildcat Robotics Competition Team to be set next to the bent with a mounted flag saying, "National Robotics Week, April 6-14". We were able to use material we already had within inventory to create other decorations, including the groundhog

from the February Bent Decoration. Director Rizzo also loaned his umbrella to fit the April showers bring. May flowers theme, and Rizzo also picked up a few supplies from the store. The event was posted as a graded assignment in the calendar on our Canvas course to keep general members aware of its time and date.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$15.21

v. **Cost Breakdown**

\$15.21 = Leaf & vine garland, fishing line, and green & blue streamer. The five attendees were able to co-operate and create the more complicated bent decor we had planned out. which included cutting out the rain drops, lightning, and clouds to be assembled and hung with fishline, as to resemble a storm. Event Director Rizzo and President Divilbiss dedicated three hours that day to perfect the decorations.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

Not a terrible problem: Our decorations have become increasingly elaborate, so they require a larger time commitment. This leads to members needing to leave after an hour or so, which leaves officers present finishing the decor and staying for a few or more hours in total. We are not d in the members that must leave, for we can only reasonably expect an hour or so from them, since decorations usually aren't required to be intense, so the attendees for this event met our expectation.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

SUCCESS: There was a jovial atmosphere as we worked hard on the storm clouds in our conference room. We chattered away with laughter and a music speaker played a rain-inspired playlist that was entertaining for all. This was an example of fostering community, which we had intended with the recurring Bent Decoration event, therefore making this month's iteration of the event desirably successful. There is an old wife's tale that states, April showers bring May flowers, which we used as the major theme for this round of decoration. The intent was to start the tale in April, then have it finish in the May Bent Decoration, which general engineering students recognized after we erected the decor. We had one chapter member go to our Bent Decoration Suggestion Box survey on our Canvas course and submit the exact idea we envisioned for May Bent Decoration, which is ironic because she was never made aware of our over-arching idea. This serves as proof that our members are paying attention to what the bent decoration is for the month, and hopefully they are proud of and entertained by the decorations. Officers also received compliments to for this iteration of the decor, which shows that the general student body is also mindful of the varying bent decorations. Since this was one of the more clever and elaborate decorations, we may have to continue the trend since it seems to be more entertaining and noticeable to the general student body.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 155: Bentzy's Rainy Day



51 Engineering Futures

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 04/13/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☐ Chapter/Social
 - ☒ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Students	21
Advisor	1
Officers	6
Members	1
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
4.0	3.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

Every semester, Kansas Gamma hosts an Engineering Futures session which all students at the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering can attend for free. We host a facilitator chosen by HQ and they provide training in the non-technical skills that are essential to the success of a professional engineer. We typically request three modules to be covered from the categories, and this time we requested First Contact, It's Complicated, & Teaming Up. This semester our facilitator was J.P. Blackford (DC G '95), who President Nick Divilbiss connected with during the 2023 National Convention in Atlanta. One of our advisors, Paul Snider, is currently becoming certified as a Cyberambassador, so he assisted as a co-facilitator, which was an exciting experience for him, and many students are already familiar with Paul. We receive a strong regular attendance through the assistance of a Kansas Gamma alumnus and former chapter president, Dr. Kevin Wanklyn, who teaches thermodynamics and offers his students extra credit for attending our semesterly EF sessions. For this semester's session, Divilbiss also convinced Dr. Kyle Larson, who Divilbiss is a teaching assistant for, to provide extra credit to attendees in Larson's statics course. One major hit at this session were the K'Nex towers that J.P. brought.

ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

This event helps foster a spirit of liberal culture by providing professional development opportunities to engineering students, thus preparing them to be more successful engineers. The event also accomplishes Kansas Gamma's own mission as stated: "The mission of the Kansas Gamma Chapter is to continuously improve the Carl R. Ice College of Engineering and the Manhattan community."

iii. **Organization and Administration**

Event planning was initiated by Events Director Dalton Rizzo, who made the request for a facilitator to be scheduled on one of two given dates. Once the facilitator was selected and he established contact with Director Rizzo over email, the event was delegated to Events Coordinator Cory Johnson, who then handled correspondence between all involved parties and set arrangements for the day of the EF session. The facilitator was asked what room size and amenities were required, from which Johnson chose the Burns & McDonnell Collaborative Learning Laboratory, also known as the Scholars Assisting Scholars (SAS) Room, and made a reservation for it, which required coordination with the Assistant Director of SAS, Shana Bender. Johnson also requested funding from the Dean's Office for the lunch provided to attendees, which was granted and required us to give an invoice to the Dean's Office. A sanitation plan also was written, which described the process of food service, then submitted to the campus sanitarian, Ronald Bridges, as per University policy. Once the room was reserved and food approved, Johnson created a registration form for those that wished to attend, which included questions about which sandwich is preferred, reasons for attending, and membership with TBP. This form was distributed to both Dr. Wanklyn and Dr. Larson, who presented the opportunity to their students in their lectures. Media Director Grace McLeod was asked to create a promotional poster, which included details and the registration form, and it was distributed onto the TVs throughout the common spaces in the college. An announcement was also created and published in the weekly engineering college newsletter. Johnson ordered the food a couple days in advance, then picked it up on the day of the event. He also arrived early to unlock the doors and setup the room.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$14.65

v. **Cost Breakdown**

The cost for the McAlister's Boxed Lunches was \$387.73, which was absorbed by the College of Engineering. The expense for bottled water was \$14.65, which was covered by the chapter. Facilitator Time Requirements: 4 hours day of, travel time, prep time. Events Coordinator Requirements: 4 hours planning, 4 hours day of. Media Director: 1 hour to create and distribute flyers and to write and submit newsletter announcements.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

One major issue was a result of our sole reliance on Dr. Wanklyn to entice students to attend EF sessions. His extra credit offerings usually allow us to fill up a room with ease, so we don't put much effort into promoting the sessions. However, Wanklyn told us just one week before this project that he had also offered extra credit for attending our dance, so many students did that instead and we scrambled for attendance. We emailed all TBP faculty and found another extra credit opportunity.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

SUCCESS: The event was successful in providing an extracurricular professional development opportunity to 28 students, many of whom are not Tau Bates. Those students were entertained by the module with K'Nex towers, and we found that to be an excellent exercise in nonverbal communications enabled by heightened planning and preparation. Attendees were fed a premium boxed deli lunch on the College's dime, which they greatly appreciated, and they now have a positive association between Tau Beta Pi and extra credit in their respective course, so our image and name recognition was increased by the session. Most importantly, the session was successful in that it kept participants involved and engaged through the end and that they walked away with a sense of value having learned things they weren't aware of and improved their soft skills over the course of the session. Unfortunately, some of the participants had other commitments, so we were not able to take a group photo with all 28 students this time.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 156: Group photo w/ winning tower



Figure 157: Serious discussion



Figure 158: Dynamic Duo presenting



Figure 159: All hands on deck



Figure 160: Considering available material



52 Spring 2024 Chapter Banquet & 50th Anniversary Celebration

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 04/16/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: Recurring
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Others	11
Parents	12
Officers	11
Members	14
Electees	19

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
40.0	3.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

Each semester, a chapter banquet is hosted after our initiation ceremony. The purpose of our chapter banquets is to gather the chapter together to socialize, celebrate our collective achievements, welcome new members into the society, and introduce future plans. An added purpose of this banquet was to commemorate Kansas Gamma's history since this semester marks the 50th anniversary its installation.

The banquet started out with some introductory remarks by President Divilbiss after everyone had filled their plates with catering from Olive Garden. Divilbiss thanked everyone for coming and acknowledged the distinguished members and guests present which included Dean Matt O'Keefe (MO B '85), Sen. Assoc. Dean Gary Clark (KS G '24), former head K-State football coach Bill Snyder, namesake benefactor of the Carl R Ice College of Engineering and former CEO of BNSF Railway Carl Ice (KS G '79), and President of Orazem & Scalora Engineering

Tom Orazem (KS G '24).

Coach Snyder then gave a 20-minute speech on life lessons learned during his career and how they relate to all our lives. He spoke about the importance of surrounding oneself with people who care about you and want to see you succeed. His speech discussed leadership, setting and accomplishing goals, and doing what it takes to succeed. He discussed how he came to Manhattan, and why he never accepted any offers to relocate to bigger, better programs at other universities. He said it's always been about the people. He loves the people of K-State.

Following Snyder's speech, Divilbiss gave a short presentation on the origin of Kansas Gamma going all the way back to 1909, which was based on information retrieved from the stacks at HQ during his time there in December 2023. Chapter awards were then announced by Awards Director Henry Bash. Divilbiss presented certificates to 19 new members and 6 award winners. Divilbiss finished the evening off with the State of the Chapter presentation which ends with the TBP Yell.

ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

"To mark in a fitting manner"

The awards portion of the banquet was all about marking people in a fitting manner. With a room full of distinguished guests, deans, new members, parents, existing members, and officers, each new member was called up to the awards table one at a time to receive their membership certificates and have their photo taken with President Divilbiss. A slide was made for each new undergraduate member which listed their name, favorite state, and the three things that they would bring to an island. The purpose of the slides was to help keep the mood light and to let the audience get to know the new members. Slides were also prepared for new eminent engineers. Those slides listed their names and titles along with their nominator's name and their reasons for being nominated. The purpose of those slides was to let the audience know how each of those new members were selected and to show how impactful their contributions are.

Award recipients were also marked in a fitting manner. Five were chapter members and one was not. Of the five who were, one was marked as the "Eddie R. Fowler (KS G '54) Most Outstanding Member" of spring 2024, and four received "Frank A. Tillman (MO A '60) Special Service Awards." Finally, the non-member was marked as the "Donald E. Rathbone (IN A '51) Underclassman of the Year." Please see our project report on the Kansas Gamma Awards Program to learn more about each of these awards.

The State of the Chapter presentation was first developed in fall 2023, and it summarizes membership data, achievements, goals, and future plans of the chapter. During that presentation, Divilbiss announced the Chapter's biggest achievement of the spring semester, which was the codification of its new mission statement. He discussed other achievements like the majorly successful Engineering Formal, and 'Pi Day Across the USA.' He repeatedly preached the Bent-O-Rama gospel and also made sure to promote the fast-approaching Convention.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

Our President and Events Director made sure that this banquet would be the most memorable banquet that any of our members had ever experienced. Our President reached out to the

beloved former head football coach of the K-State Wildcats to ask if he would speak at the banquet. Divilbiss simply went to Snyder's home, knocked on his door, told him about Tau Beta Pi and the Kansas Gamma Chapter's golden anniversary, and asked if he would enjoy the opportunity to speak at the banquet to which Snyder replied that he would be honored.

Events Director Rizzo tirelessly worked behind the scenes leveraging his connections with the Student Union managers, made during the Engineering Formal, to reserve the use of china, silverware, carafes, and beverage dispensers for the banquet. None of these items are available to student organizations, but Rizzo did such a professional job with execution of the Formal, that the Union now trusts him to facilitate major events using their catering equipment and kitchens. Rizzo coordinated catering for the banquet and made certain that the event went smoothly.

Much difficulty came with the secrecy of banquet programming. Divilbiss and Rizzo were the only two people who knew that Snyder would attend as the keynote speaker, and Divilbiss and Bash were the only ones who knew that Rizzo, Culbertson, Velasquez, and Pine would receive the new Tillman Awards. Divilbiss included this information in the programs, which meant he was the only one who could see the program before the event. He spent about 12 hours using Microsoft Publisher to perfect the design of the programs so they would be a superb keepsake for all who attended. The secrecy paid off though, because Coach Snyder's appearance made the night special for everyone.

Member Brandon Thimmesch helped Divilbiss and Rizzo stage the needed items in the Union the night before the banquet. Together, the three spent many hours polishing all the china and rolling silverware.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$1422.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

\$94 for the Flint Hills Room in the Student Union (includes linens); \$18 plus shipping for the six blank award certificates from HQ; \$60 for printing banquet programs and awards; \$50 to our photographer; \$1,200 for Olive Garden catering

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

Surprisingly enough, the banquet went without any major problems at all due to Rizzo's and Divilbiss's many hours of planning and organizing. The only minor problem was the underestimation of how long it takes 75 people to file through one food line. This caused the scheduled programming to start about 30 minutes late. This was actually a very good thing, because it allowed the guests that much more time to visit amongst themselves, contributing to their enjoyment of the evening's festivities.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

The event was overwhelmingly successful, and it was the perfect way to cap off such a transformational year for a rejuvenated chapter. Both of our deans and their wives commented on how they were most impressed with the successful planning and execution of the program. Parents were happy to celebrate their children's achievements in joining Tau Beta Pi. New members were thrilled to join such an impactful chapter and learn about all the opportunities for leadership and community it offers. Tillman Award recipients were surprised when their names were

called in recognition of their service and dedication to the chapter.

New and existing members were forced to participate in the Tau Beta Pi Yell, which has become a staple of Kansas Gamma banquets. During the State of the Chapter portion of the presentation, members were introduced to the new chapter leadership structure being implemented over the coming months. They were briefly introduced to the Bentspedition, and given advance notice that they need to be reading their Bent magazines next month when Kansas Gamma will have a feature article. Parents were thrilled to see their children join such an active and impactful organization. One of the best parts of the State of the Chapter presentation was when we got to announce that the chapter had just passed a major milestone: As of April 14, Kansas Gamma became the most followed chapter on Instagram in Kansas. Kansas Alpha is not aware of this yet, and it was pointed out that our chapter has only had Instagram for 10 months, whereas theirs has had one for 73 months. The excitement raised during this portion of the banquet gained our chapter about 15 more followers as we encouraged those in attendance to help us fulfill our mission of service by increasing our visibility.

There were several individuals with the potential to become major donors, so we are thrilled with how well everything went. They were most impressed to with this student-orchestrated event.

3. Additional Attachments

Figure 161: Program booklet



Figure 162: The Tau Beta Pi yell!



Figure 163: History of Kansas Gamma and our Sigma Tau (Epsilon) Chapter



Figure 164: Keynote speaker and former head football coach of the K-State Wildcats: Bill D. Snyder



Figure 165: Undergraduates (left) and eminent engineers (right)



53 Frank A. Tillman Special Service Awards 1, 2, 3, & 4

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 04/16/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Recognition/Honor
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	2
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
1.0	3.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

To commemorate the Kansas Gamma Chapter's 50th anniversary at K-State, the Frank A. Tillman Special Service Award was created in spring 2024 to honor Dr. Frank Aubrey Tillman, the Chapter's founding advisor. In Tau Beta Gamma's 1973 final petition, he and the other petitioners define the Chapter as "More of a service organization," which still holds true. The Chapter owes its existence to Tillman's drive and dedication and honors his memory by awarding the Frank A. Tillman Special Service Award to only those who exhibit extraordinary drive and dedication in their contributions to the fulfillment of its service-based mission.

The award is named in honor of Dr. Frank Aubrey Tillman (MO-A '60), who was born in Linn, Missouri in 1937. He developed an unparalleled work ethic early in his life when he began supporting his family at age nine, due to his father's passing. Working full time to support his family and going to school full time, he earned a bachelor's and master's degree in industrial engineering from the University of Missouri. By age 29, he was head of the K-State Department of Industrial Engineering, where he mentored many students, wrote 54 papers, and published two books, before departing with emeritus status. Dr. Tillman was the founding advisor of the Kansas Gamma Chapter, which owes its existence to his drive and dedication.

ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

The purpose of this award is to mark in a fitting manner those who have conferred honor upon their alma mater by displaying extraordinary drive and dedication towards fulfillment of the mission of both Tau Beta Pi and the Kansas Gamma Chapter.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

President Nick Divilbiss and Awards Director Henry Bash developed this award as an opportunity to recognize the members of our dance committee and honor Dr. Tillman's legacy. The awards were revealed at the spring 2024 Chapter Banquet / 50th Anniversary Celebration.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$12.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

\$3.00 per each of (4) blank Tau Beta Pi awards certificates. Divilbiss came up with the idea for the award, made the template for the award, and had it printed; Divilbiss made the slides for the awards presentation; Bash announced the awards during the chapter banquet; Divilbiss presented the awards; Director of Public Relations Jordan Rowse shared the awards on Kansas Gamma's social media platforms.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

It was difficult to match the Tau Beta Pi awards fonts, but reverse image searches and trials and errors eventually led to a close replica. It was difficult for Divilbiss to keep the awards secret from the recipients since they were all deeply involved in chapter operations.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

A MAJOR SUCCESS: All recipients were surprised and honored by the recognition. Our social media followers learned about Dr. Tillman, Kansas Gamma history, the recipients, and their drive and dedication. The new award is a great way for us to recognize supreme dedication occurring behind the scenes and out of our general members' sight.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 166: Bash reveals the award recipients!



Figure 167: Tillman SSA #1 - Dalton Rizzo



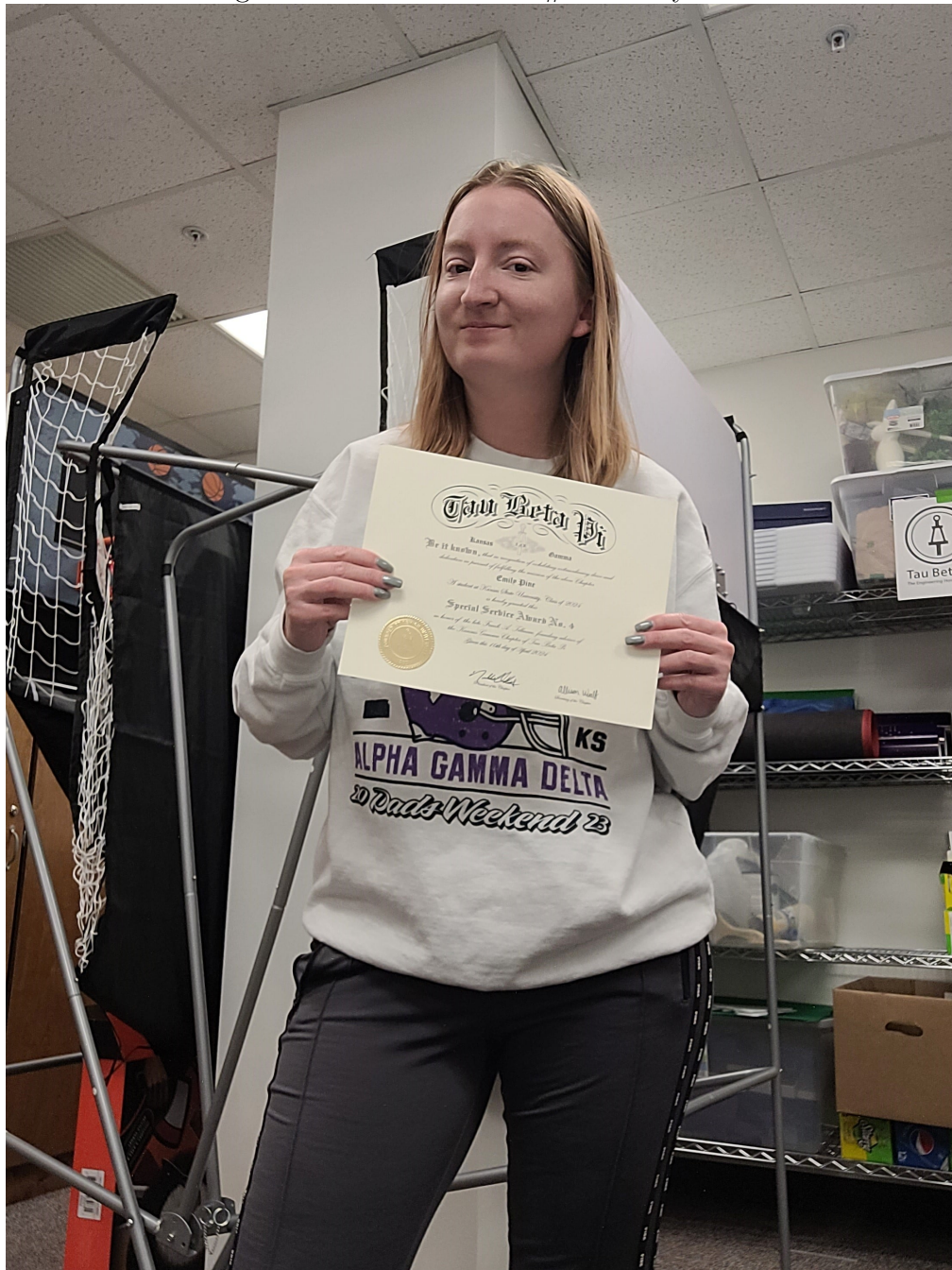
Figure 168: Tillman SSA #2 - Matthew Culbertson



Figure 169: Tillman SSA #3 - Michael Velasquez



Figure 170: Tillman SSA #4 - Emily Pine



54 Eddie R. Fowler Most Outstanding Member Award

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 04/16/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Recognition/Honor
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	3
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
5.0	0.5

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

The Eddie R. Fowler Most Outstanding Member Award was created in spring 2024, in commemoration of Kansas Gamma's past as it celebrated 50-years at K-State. Each semester (starting now), the Chapter recognizes its most involved member with this award in honor of Dr. Fowler and his dedication to Tau Beta Pi and K-State. Selection is made via the Chapter's Canvas-based points system gradebook. Points are earned by heartily participating in Chapter events and operations. Whoever has the highest outstanding grade (above 66.7%) before the banquet wins!

The award is named in honor of Dr. Eddie Randolph Fowler. As an undergraduate at K-State, Dr. Fowler joined Sigma Tau (Epsilon Chapter) in 1954. He joined Tau Beta Pi as an alumnus in 1975. Fowler served as Kansas Gamma chief advisor from 1991-98, and in 1999, he became the sixth recipient of Tau Beta Pi's national Outstanding Advisor Award. In his nomination, students described him as not only an advisor, but a true friend. Fowler was the backbone of the Kansas Gamma chapter for almost a decade. After his retirement, he continued serving the Association as a District Nine director for several more years. Fowler set the standard for involvement in Kansas Gamma by regularly attending district conferences, national conventions, Engineering Futures sessions, and service projects. He also hosted officer cookouts at his home to facilitate community-building and long-range planning.

ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

The purpose of this award is to mark in a fitting manner those who have conferred honor upon their alma mater by distinguished scholarship, exemplary character and dedication to the mission of both Tau Beta Pi and the Kansas Gamma Chapter.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

President Nick Divilbiss and Awards Director Henry Bash developed this award. Bash originally pitched the idea to the Executive Board at the end of the fall 2023 semester once he realized that the soon-to-be implemented points system would allow the chapter to determine its most involved member. Selection took place the day before the award was granted at the spring 2024 Chapter Banquet / 50th Anniversary Celebration.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$3.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

\$3.00 for a blank Tau Beta Pi award certificate. Bash came up with the idea for the award. Divilbiss made the template for the award, and had it printed; Divilbiss made the slides for the award presentation; Bash announced the award during the banquet; Divilbiss presented the award; Director of Public Relations Jordan Rowse shared Thimmesch's award on Kansas Gamma's social media.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

It was difficult to match the Tau Beta Pi awards fonts, but reverse image searches and trials and errors eventually led to a close replica.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

A MAJOR SUCCESS: Thimmesch was honored by the recognition. Our social media followers learned about Dr. Fowler, Kansas Gamma history, Thimmesch, and our chapter's new culture of involvement and dedication. Dr. Fowler was deeply honored when we surprised him with the news.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 171: Bio slide for Dr. Fowler

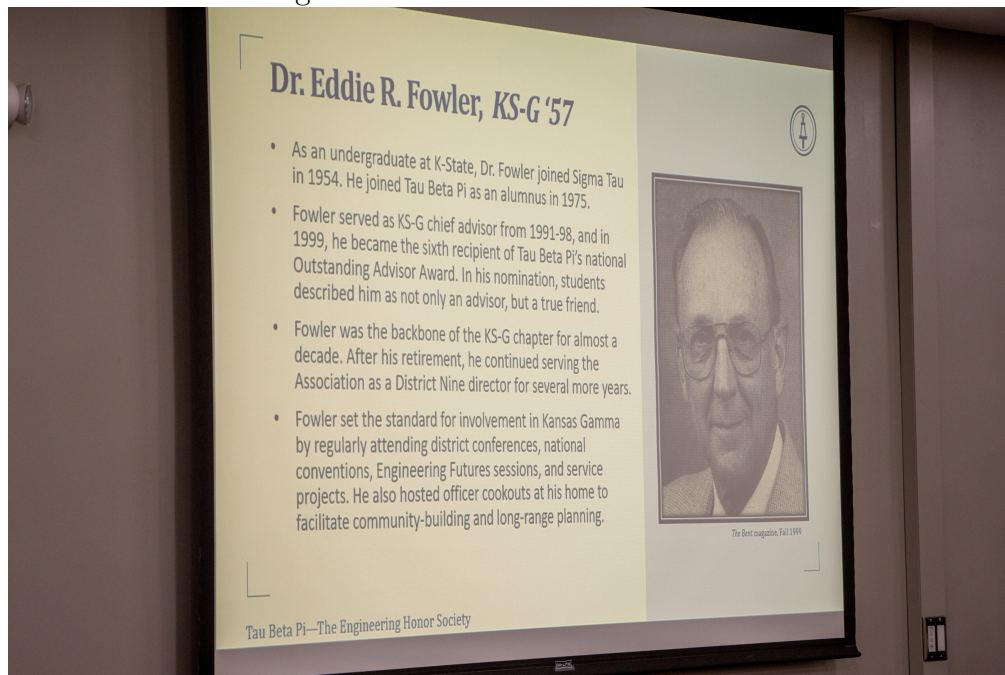


Figure 172: Thimmesch takes the Fowler Award!



Figure 173: Divilbiss and Thimmesch



Figure 174: Surprising Dr. Fowler with some good news

Re: KS Gamma creates the Fowler Award!

Nicholas Divilbiss <nickdivilbiss@ksu.edu>

Wed 5/8/2024 6:23 PM

To:Eddie <e.r.fowler@cox.net>

Dr. Fowler - You're welcome! I feel very fortunate to have connected with you this year to learn about your time with our chapter and the national organization. I will pass on your thanks to the chapter, and I'll keep you informed of any noteworthy happenings here over the coming semesters. Make sure to pay attention to the summer 2024 issue of *The Bent* magazine. Our little KS-G chapter will have a big shoutout!

Best,
Nick

Nicholas Divilbiss

Architectural Engineering | Kansas State University

Engineering Senator | K-State Student Governing Association

President | Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society - Kansas Gamma

Cell: (913) 832-9917 | Email: NickDivilbiss@ksu.edu

From: Eddie <e.r.fowler@cox.net>

Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 5:09 PM

To: Nicholas Divilbiss <nickdivilbiss@ksu.edu>

Subject: Re: KS Gamma creates the Fowler Award!

This email originated from outside of K-State.

Nick - I don't know what to say! This really caught me by surprise. Thank you very much and thank the KS-G chapter for me. Personally I feel this is quite an honor.

KS-G was a very important part of my life for many years and it brought me a lot of joy while I was active in the KS-G chapter and the Tau Beta Pi National Organization.

This is quite an honor for me!

Dr. Fowler

Sent from my iPhone

On May 8, 2024, at 4:25 PM, Nicholas Divilbiss <nickdivilbiss@ksu.edu> wrote:

Hi Dr. Fowler,

Last month, in appreciation of all you've done for Sigma Tau and Tau Beta Pi over the years, we created a new award called the Eddie R. Fowler Most Outstanding Member Award which will be given out every semester to the most involved member of our chapter. Below are some slides and photos from our chapter banquet where we announced the award on April 16th. The first-ever Fowler Most Outstanding Member is Brandon Thimmesch of the class of spring 2024. We created a points system which grades members based on their

55 2024-25 Officer Election Forum

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 04/22/24 - 04/27/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Chapter Development
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Voters	30
Members	9
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
0.5	0.5

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

Since our candidate and officer elections were moved to Canvas this semester, we decided to nix the in-person officer election forum and host one using a Canvas discussion board instead. This way, members would have an entire week to peruse the forum and make an educated decision on the candidates. The new format of our forum was well received, and 39 members wound up viewing the forum and voting via electronic ballots. Officer candidates had the opportunity to define their platform and answer questions publicly.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

The purpose of this project was to maximize our members' ownership of and involvement in the leadership of their chapter.

iii. Organization and Administration

Events Director Dalton Rizzo was the administrator of this project.

iv. Total Cost

\$0.0

v. Cost Breakdown

N/A

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

N/A

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

SUCCESS: Members were able to aptly consider officer candidates at their leisure. Candidates went back and forth asking each other questions. We had a competitive election for two positions.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 175: Description and instructions

Press ALT + F8 to see a list of keyboard shortcuts



S24 - Online Forum, 2024-2025 Officer Elections

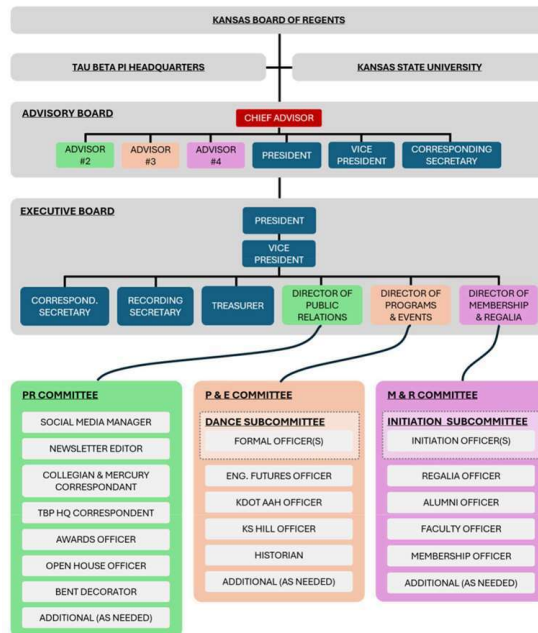
Apr 22 at 12am
1 37

[Nick Divilbiss](#)

All Sections

The purpose of this forum is to facilitate discussion between candidates and members as the chapter looks to elect (7) Executive Board members for the next term beginning on May 1st, 2024, and ending on April 30th, 2025. The org chart is attached below for reference.

- Candidates, in a paragraph or two, explain why you are running for each position you accepted nomination for.
- Everyone else, please ask away, as this is a place for questions.



This topic was edited by [Dalton Rizzo](#)



[Reply](#)

Figure 176: Events Director Rizzo runs for Director of Events & Programs

Dalton Rizzo (<https://k-state.instructure.com/courses/140814/users/204050>)

Apr 22, 2024

Director of Programs & Events, Dalton Rizzo For next year, I'm running for the position of Director of Programs & Events, .

Director of Programs & Events, Dalton Rizzo

For next year, I'm running for the position of *Director of Programs & Events*, which is strikingly similar to the position I held this year, Events Director. The difference is the newly created committee that's open to all general members if they wish to be a part of any event or program that will be happening next year. I find this advantageous, for having multiple opinions and ideas while planning helps diversify the event and allow for effective inclusion. I had the pleasure of leading the committee that organized the 2024 Engineering Formal and we believe it was a successful event. From this experience, I've acquired fruitful connections within the K-State Union, practiced committee administration, and gained insight into the desires of the College of Engineering's student body. I've no shortage of useful experience that is applicable to Director of Programs & Events.

This coming year, I want to improve the events we already do as a chapter, cultivate a group that can effectively run events after I graduate, and within my capabilities, continually improve the general student body's experience at our college. A vote for me is a guarantee that KS-Gamma won't fall by the wayside, but rather stand out as a staple of the College of Engineering. I'll gladly take questions and address concerns, as I hope you carefully consider who you may want on the Executive Board next year. Thank you for taking the time to read my 10 cents!

↩ Reply

(2 likes)

📎 Attach

Cancel

Post Reply

Page 252 of 269

Figure 177: Awards Director Bash runs for Vice President



Henry Bash (<https://k-state.instructure.com/courses/140814/users/210017>)

Apr 23, 2024

Vice President, Henry Bash I am running for next year's Vice President position. My main goal with this position is to take .

Vice President, Henry Bash

I am running for next year's Vice President position. My main goal with this position is to take some of the responsibility off of Nick's shoulders as he continues to lead the reinvigoration and redefinition of the chapter into 2025. He does a lot of work for one man, and I know I can alleviate some of that weight and therefore increase the chapter's capacity to do great things. I plan to work closely with Nick on the chapter proceedings and provide a second opinion when I have one.

Another of my big goals for next year is a successful execution of the First Annual Pi Mile Run. I have personally planned this event over the past few months, and I anticipate it will be a great fundraising opportunity for KS-G and an overall benefit to College of Engineering morale. The vice president position will allow me a little bit more pull within the chapter in case obstacles arise in the organization and execution of this event.

This next part is obligatory...

Don't be trash, vote for Bash :)

← [Reply](#)  (2 likes)

 [Attach](#)

Cancel

Post Reply

Figure 178: Treasurer Velasquez runs for re-election



Michael Velasquez (<https://k-state.instructure.com/courses/140814/users/201390>)

Wednesday

Treasurer, Michael Velasquez Hello, Kansas Gamma! My name is Michael Velasquez, and I am running for Treasurer for t



Treasurer, Michael Velasquez



Hello, Kansas Gamma!

My name is Michael Velasquez, and I am running for Treasurer for the 2024-2025 school year. I served as this chapter's treasurer for the past semester, and would be happy to continue in this role!

Thus far in the office of treasurer, I have helped keep track of our budget, communicated with the university to complete pay requests, and ordered many supplies and decorations for the chapter's use, mainly for this year's Engineering Formal.

Speaking of the Formal, I served as a member of the Dance Committee and was directly involved in the decision-making and planning process for decor, food, and beverages. I also had a hand in creating the slideshow utilized at the dance and open house. I intend to continue being active in the chapter, both as a member and as a treasurer, and I look forward to the opportunities that the position of Treasurer can offer.

Thank you for reading my post, I hope you consider voting for me as Treasurer!

↩ [Reply](#) (2 likes)

[Attach](#)

Cancel

Post Reply

Figure 179: Member Mills runs for Director of Membership & Regalia

Austin Mills (<https://k-state.instructure.com/courses/140814/users/193738>)

Thursday

Hi Nick, During my time at K-State I have been involved in many different organizations. Most prominently

Hi Nick,

During my time at K-State I have been involved in many different organizations. Most prominently I have been involved with the Marching/Basketball bands, Engineering Ambassadors, and the Student Alumni Board. I have served as the new member development coordinator for Engineering ambassadors for the past year and will transition into the VP of development role for the coming year. These positions have given me direct insight into how to develop newly initiated members and keep them actively engaged with the organizations goals. If I am elected to the Director of M&R, I would aim to establish a culture of engagement and participation starting from the moment students are initiated.

Along with this, I have served as a Co-chair for Wildcats Forever through the Student Alumni Board. Wildcats Forever is the student alumni association and it puts on a number of events, giveaways, and local discounts throughout the year. During my time in this position I was tasked with promoting student engagement with all of our events. This experience has given me a few ideas that could help engage or reactivate current members such as more casual events (hangouts, dinners, etc.), building a community rather than a network of individuals (promote more collaboration between all members), do cool things and market them well. It would be my goal to work directly with my cabinet members and other elected Directors to achieve these ideas and more.

As far as appointed officers goes here is the breakdown I had in mind:

- **1-2 Initiation Officers** that would help handle the initiation process (ceremony, logistics, etc.)
- **1 Membership Secretary** that would help record and track participation of members within the organization. I plan for this to be centered around a large spreadsheet with current members listed.
- **1-2 Community Outreach Officers** that would work to engage faculty, local alumni, and K-State community. This would include getting feedback from faculty and alumni on what they think Tau Beta Pi does well/needs to improve upon.
- **1 Regional Outreach Officer** that would work to reach out to other Tau Beta Pi chapters within the region to gain a heightened understanding of what they do well/differently/similarly to our chapter.
- **At-Large Officer (optional)** that could help with any book keeping or additional tasks that come up during the year. This position would be optional.

Hopefully this helps spread some light on what I see the future of this position as and how I hope to better TBP this coming year.

I don't think I will be able to attend the 2024 National Convention if elected as it conflicts with the K-State vs. KU football game (which I will have to play at because of band).

Reply

(2 likes)

56 April Bent Decoration #2

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 04/28/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	2
Members	1
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
1.0	2.0

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

At the beginning of every month, Tau Beta Pi members decorate our Bent monument according to the month's corresponding themes and holidays. The themes and holidays we celebrated this time were Memorial Day, Armed Forces Day, Star Wars Day, Cinco de Mayo, graduation, final exams & projects, and April showers bring May flowers (Old Wife's Tale).

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

This activity helps general engineering students and visitors notice our Bent monument, potentially inspiring them to investigate its purpose. Students that already know of the monument may talk about its decor with those who don't, thus spreading word about the chapter and increasing recognition of Tau Beta Pi at K-State. The event also facilitates socialization and comradery between Tau Beta Pi members, nurturing a sense of community within our chapter.

iii. Organization and Administration

Event Director Rizzo decided the themes after collected ideas both verbally from members and from the Canvas survey (Bent Decoration Suggestion Box). President Divilbiss bought a few more supplies, such as poster board for the sun, yellow spray paint, and flags for each military branch. Director Rizzo loaned his UCP Boonie Hat for decoration, which worked for both a type

of shade from the May sun and as a literal tip-of-the-hat to Armed Forces Day. The decorations were not as elaborate this time around, since the semester would only be in session for another two weeks, so exposure was minimal. The event was posted as an assignment in the calendar on our Canvas course to keep general members aware of its time and date.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

The three members present were able to create the decor and adorn the bent within two hours. President Divilbiss graciously bought and donated the decoration supplies to the Chapter.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

There was a lack of attendees, which may be due to the end-of-semester atmosphere caused by impending final projects and the stress of final exams. We tried to avoid this by having the event during the preparation week that didn't hold any exams, but it is typical that final projects are due this week, so many upperclassmen were occupied by such.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

SUCCESS: The members present were satisfied with the result of the decoration. We are receiving ideas and feedback on the Canvas survey. Ideas we used from the survey were the addition of a paper lightsaber as well as the inclusion of an American Flag. We also received feedback about the survey itself, which asked for it to be set up, so it notified members earlier about each decoration event, as well as the comment from an Engineering Ambassador that prospective students (high schoolers) ask about the bent and its decor while they are on tour with the ambassador. Newly elected Director of Public Relations Rowse had the thrifty idea of using tissue paper to create Cinco de Mayo inspired flowers using tissue paper and pipe cleaners, which helped boost the old wife's tale theme we used, which was completed in this decoration as a two-part set beginning with the April decorations. In this iteration of the event, we didn't want to completely cover the lettering on the bent, so we carefully wrapped the garland. In one picture, the Cornhole boards that were made are also seen standing against a wall. We have had those boards there for two months now, which reinforce our identity with the bent, and we have not been asked to take those down. This is a good omen that proves we are able to use the space around the bent in many different ways. Thoughts and plans are already being formulated on how to further use the space next academic year.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 180: Bentzy and our corn hole boards



Figure 181: Bentzy is ready for summer!



57 Meet Commander Nicole Mann (MD Gamma '99); First Native American Woman In Space

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 04/29/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☐ Custom
 - ☒ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☒ University/College
 - ☒ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☒ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Advisor	1
Others	4
Officers	4
Members	1
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
2.0	1.5

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

The webinar was put on by the Indigenous Education Institute and NASA; it was part of the Sense of Place Webinar Series about indigenous perspectives on Earth, water and sky. Colonel Nicole Mann was selected into NASA's astronaut corps in June 2013. She launched to the International Space Station (ISS) as commander of NASA's SpaceX Crew-5 mission aboard the SpaceX Crew Dragon spacecraft, Endurance, on October 5, 2022. The Crew-5 astronauts lived and worked aboard the ISS for nearly six months as part of Expedition 68. During their mission, Crew-5 contributed to hundreds of experiments and technology demonstrations, including cardiovascular health, bioprinting, and fluid behavior in microgravity. The International crew of four spent 157 days in orbit. Mann conducted two spacewalks totaling 14 hours, 02 minutes. The California native holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering. Mann is a Colonel in the Marine Corps and served as a combat fighter pilot and test pilot in the F/A-18 Hornet and Super Hornet. She deployed twice

aboard aircraft carriers in support of combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. She is the first indigenous woman from NASA to go to space. She is registered with the Wailaki of the Round Valley Indian Tribes.

ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

The purpose of this event was to work with the Multicultural Engineering Program (MEP) to foster a spirit of liberal culture by hosting a webinar viewing session where attendees learned about Commander Nicole Mann's story and how she achieved more than she ever imagined by putting herself outside of her comfort zone and working through many challenges in her life. Mann did an excellent job of fostering said spirit by telling her viewers that they can literally achieve exactly what she has achieved. Mann never thought it was possible for her to become an astronaut, so her advice was to set our goals high and do what it takes to make them come true.

iii. **Organization and Administration**

We were contacted by the LaVerne Bitsie-Baldwin, chair of the K-State Multicultural Engineering Program, thanks to our outreach and promotional efforts over the year; Mrs. Baldwin noticed our poster of Colonel Mann which we placed by the Bent as part of our decorations celebrating female Tau Bates during Women's History Month (March). Baldwin contacted President Nick Divilbiss and offered for us to co-host the webinar so more students could learn about Tau Beta Pi. Divilbiss published a K-State Today university-wide announcement and helped Baldwin create posters. The event was also promoted internally via our Canvas course. Baldwin had already registered for the zoom link to the webinar and had the WiE Conference Room reserved for the event. The event took place on a Monday, from 1:45-3:00pm.

iv. **In Conjunction With**

K-State Multicultural Engineering Program, NASA

v. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

vi. **Cost Breakdown**

No cost was associated with the project aside from the fractional cost of the bookmarks and business cards we gave to attendees. Baldwin and Divilbiss presented about MEP and TBP, respectively, and Events Director Dalton Rizzo helped troubleshoot during a period of technical difficulties.

vii. **Special Problems Encountered**

There were technical issues with the computer and TV monitor. First, we had issues getting video signal. Then, we had issues with barely audible sound during the webinar. Events Director Dalton Rizzo sorted out these issues. We had low attendance at this event because it was so late in the spring semester and most people were swamped with projects. Luckily, we hosted the event in a glass conference room in the common learning space, so many people witnessed our chapter presenting with the MEP.

viii. **Overall Evaluation**

The event was successful in entertaining and broadening the viewpoints of those in attendance. Mann talked about her life, her career, and her experiences; she played a video that NASA made about her mission on the ISS which was entertaining and informative. The video showed Mann and her crewmates doing experiments, collecting data, playfully messing around, and demonstrating some basic laws of physics in a low-gravity environment. What was especially interesting to us was when she talked about the process of growing plants in space. More than

anything though, the event was successful in that it established a working relationship between Kansas Gamma and the Multicultural Engineering Program Director. That relationship will be mutually beneficial as our chapter looks to increase the visibility of multicultural organizations within our College of Engineering over the coming semesters with our Visibility Project.

3. Additional Attachments

Figure 182: Advertisement



**INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES:
EARTH, WATER, AND SKY**

Webinar:
**COLONEL NICOLE
MANN**
NASA SpaceX Crew-5 Mission
Mission Commander

**April 29 at
1:45-3:00 PM**

**1093 Fiedler, WiE Conf.
Room, Fielder Learning
Commons**

Colonel Mann is a member of
Tau Beta Pi and First Native
American woman in space.

Learn about Tau Beta Pi
and MEP at KSU

Figure 183: Intro PowerPoint



**INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES:
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Colonel Mann is a member of
Tau Beta Pi and First Native
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Learn about Tau Beta Pi
and MEP at KSU

Please
Sign-In:

**KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY**
Carl R. Ice College of Engineering

Figure 184: Flyer about the webinar series

Indigenous Perspectives on Earth, Water and Sky

A SENSE OF PLACE WEBINAR SERIES:
APRIL 29, 2024 - 12PM PDT/3PM EDT

MEET COMMANDER NICOLE MANN
FIRST NATIVE AMERICAN WOMAN IN SPACE

Colonel Nicole Mann was selected into NASA's astronaut corps in June, 2013. She launched to the International Space Station (ISS) as commander of NASA's SpaceX Crew-5 mission aboard the SpaceX Crew Dragon spacecraft, Endurance, on October 5, 2022. The Crew-5 astronauts lived and worked aboard the ISS for nearly six months as part of Expedition 68.

During their mission, Crew-5 contributed to hundreds of experiments and technology demonstrations, including cardiovascular health, bioprinting, and fluid behavior in microgravity. The International crew of four spent 157 days in orbit. Mann conducted two spacewalks totaling 14 hours, 02 minutes.

The California native holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering. Mann is a Colonel in the Marine Corps and served as a combat fighter pilot and test pilot in the F/A-18 Hornet and Super Hornet.

She deployed twice aboard aircraft carriers in support of combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. She is the first indigenous woman from NASA to go to space. She is registered with the Wailacki of the Round Valley Indian Tribes.

The webinar series A Sense of Place: Pacific Northwest - Indigenous Perspectives on Earth and Sky is a team effort of the Indigenous Education Institute, San Juan Island National Historical Park, the Madrona Institute and NASA HEAT. A recording of most webinars produced in this series will be available at <http://indigenouseducation.org/multimedia/>

TO REGISTER: <https://bit.ly/IEI-NASA-MANN>

Logos: Indigenous Education Institute, NASA, American Indian/Alaska Native Working Group, The Madrona Institute, NASA HEAT, National Park Service.

Figure 185: Food is tough to eat in space

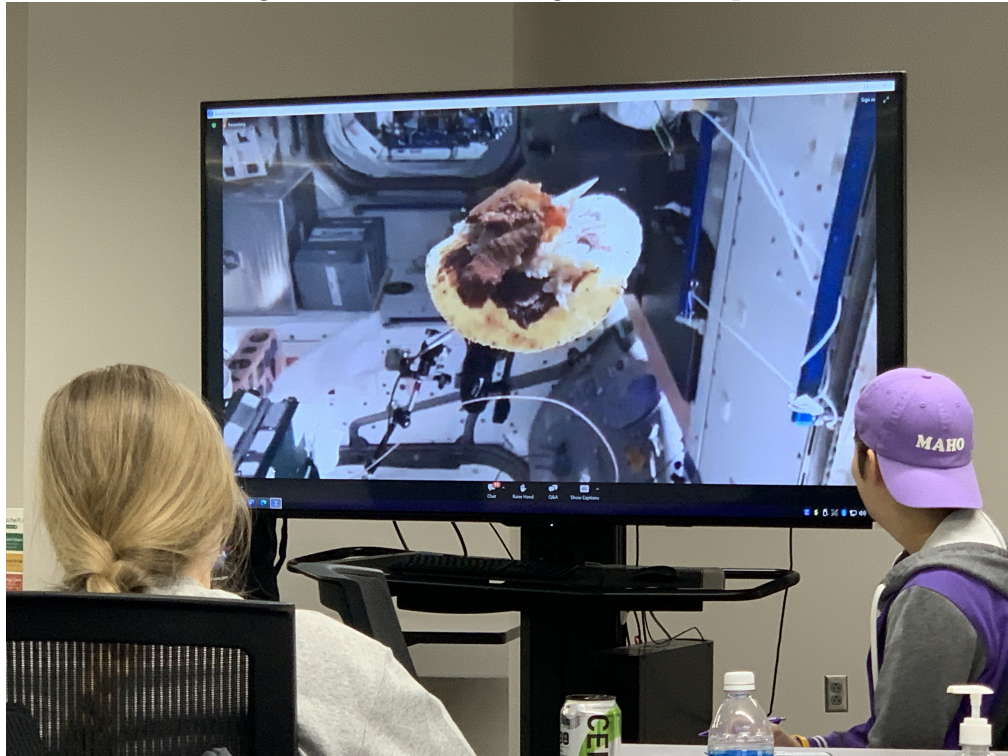


Figure 186: Becoming very dizzy for science



58 Regalia Distribution

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 04/29/24 - 05/11/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ TBP Image
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	3
Members	14
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
0.5	0.1

2. Project Evaluation

i. General Description

In accordance with the chapter's new points system, regalia purchases became restricted in the spring of 2024. Regalia is now earned via the system and is not distributed until the week before finals start. Per chapter policy, only active and outstanding members may receive regalia, and only former officers may receive stoles.

ii. Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi

The purpose of this project is to encourage all eligible candidates to wear Tau Beta Pi regalia at graduation. Doing so marks them in a fitting manner for their scholarship and character.

iii. Organization and Administration

President Divilbiss ordered the regalia and made the distributions while collecting funds from active members for their regalia. Treasurer Velasquez tracked budgetary expenditures. Divilbiss communicated with the graduates via email, text, and Canvas messages. Canvas graduation semester groups were used to target emails to individuals known to be graduating in the spring of 2024.

iv. Total Cost

\$27.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

Total cost of regalia ((17) cords and (1) stole) was \$272; less the \$236 received from active members left a total expense of \$27 to the chapter.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

Even with the new system of sorting members by graduation semester on Canvas, it is still difficult to determine who will graduate each semester. Some members plan to stay at K-State for graduate degrees, so they choose a graduation semester corresponding to their last semester at K-State which is not necessarily their last undergraduate semester. This led to a literal last-minute distribution of regalia by someone in said situation who didn't reach out until the day before graduation.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

A MAJOR SUCCESS: In conjunction with the points system, this project allowed us to track and reward our members who earned the right to wear regalia. Also, the individual distributions allowed President Divilbiss to collect the graduates' phone numbers and organize group photos for social media. There was almost no downside to this project as \$27 is far less than the chapter expected to spend on regalia. One thing we will have to figure out is regulation of the pricing of regalia. Since individuals (used to) purchase cords for \$16 per set on the TBP store, we chose to charge the same amount for each set, but many of the members were satisfied with paying \$20 and not receiving change. We may pass a policy upping the price of cords to \$20, as it's easier to get a \$20 bill than it is to get \$16, and overcharging active members could offset all costs for the outstanding members receiving free regalia and make the project pay for itself. The project was so successful that it will now be part of the main duties of our newly created Director of Membership & Regalia position.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 187: Spring 2024 Regalia Recipients

First	Last	Email	M.Status	Cords	Stole	Tassel	Paid	Amount	Method	Date	Notes
Zach	Arensman		Active	1	0	0	Y	\$ 16.00	Cash	5/2/2024	
Aiden	Bourman		Active	1	0	0	Y	\$ 16.00	Cash	5/8/2024	
Jordan	Clark		Active	1	0	0	Y	\$ 16.00	Check	4/26/2024	
Nick	Divilbiss		Outstanding	1	0	0	N	\$ -		4/25/2024	
Mason	Ericson		Outstanding	1	0	0	N	\$ -		4/26/2024	
Jackson	Huffman		Active	1	0	0	Y	\$ 16.00	Cash	4/25/2024	
Billy	Imig		Outstanding	1	0	0	N	\$ -		4/25/2024	
Cory	Johnson		Outstanding	1	0	0	N	\$ -		4/28/2024	
Danielle	Larson		Active	1	0	0	Y	\$ 20.00	Cash	4/26/2024	\$16 cord; \$4 donation
Logan	Maurer		Active	1	0	0	Y	\$ 20.00	Cash	4/30/2024	\$16 cord; \$4 donation
Samuel	McQuality		Active	1	0	0	Y	\$ 16.00	Cash	4/29/2024	
Logan	Newsom		Active	1	0	0	Y	\$ 19.00	Cash	4/29/2024	\$16 cord; \$3 donation
Sean	Perkins		Active	1	0	0	Y	\$ 16.00	Cash	5/8/2024	
Calvin	Spellman		Active	1	0	0	Y	\$ 16.00	Cash	5/10/2024	
Brandon	Thimmesch		Outstanding	1	1	0	Y	\$ 25.00	Cash	4/25/2024	\$25 stole
Gibson	Williams		Active	1	0	0	Y	\$ 20.00	Cash	4/26/2024	\$16 cord; \$4 donation
Lauren	Stanton		Active	1	0	0	Y	\$ 20.00	Cash	5/11/2024	\$16 cord; \$4 donation
Total								\$ 236.00			

282

Figure 188: Spring 2024 Grad Group Photo



59 KS Gamma Class of '24 Graduation Photos

Kansas Gamma

1. Project Information

- i. Date(s): 05/11/24
- ii. New/Recurring Project: New
- iii. Project Areas:
 - ☒ Recognition/Honor
 - ☐ Community/Liberal Culture
 - ☐ University/College
 - ☐ Profession/Engineering
 - ☒ Chapter/Social
 - ☐ Education/Professional Development
 - ☐ K-12 STEM
- iv. Number of persons who participated:

Category	Count
Officers	3
Members	14
Electees	0

- v. Average number of hours per person spent:

Participating	Organizing
0.1	0.5

2. Project Evaluation

- i. **General Description**

Every member who requested regalia was invited to take a group photo before graduation. The photos were posted across Kansas Gamma's social media accounts and our members shared them on their personal accounts as well.
- ii. **Purpose and Relationship to Objectives of Tau Beta Pi**

The purpose of this project was to demonstrate the chapter's pride in its members' accomplishments by marking them in a fitting manner once more for honor and recognition with social media shoutouts. The project also served to demonstrate our members' solidarity with each other and with our chapter. Furthermore, the photos will be sent to HQ for use in their publications and social media.
- iii. **Organization and Administration**

President Nick Divilbiss distributed regalia during the final weeks of spring 2024, so he had a list of those invited to join in the picture. He set up a group chat and instructed everyone to meet at 5:45 pm for the photos. Luckily, the College's Public Relations Director Kelsie Jones was walking by at that time, so Divilbiss asked her to take the photos.

iv. **Total Cost**

\$0.0

v. **Cost Breakdown**

No cost. No legitimate personnel requirements.

vi. **Special Problems Encountered**

The group didn't realize that Officer Brandon Thimmesch didn't make it into the group photo, so Divilbiss took a separate photo with Thimmesch once he arrived.

vii. **Overall Evaluation**

A MAJOR SUCCESS: The photos were cross posted across our LinkedIn page and alumni group, as well as our Instagram. They have been well received, and they garnered more interactions (24) from our alumni than we've seen on any other post since the initial ones when the group was started. Our members were proud of the photos too, because many of them shared our post on their story once we tagged their profiles. We believe that making this into a recurring project will significantly advance our efforts in changing Kansas Gamma's culture into one of continuous involvement and dedication of the chapter to its members and vice versa.

3. **Additional Attachments**

Figure 189: Group picture



Figure 190: Group picture with K-State hand sign



Figure 191: Divilbiss and Thimmesch

